Feb. 16, 1932. S. S. ADAMS 1,845,735

JOKE BUZZER

Filed Nov. 12, 1931

Fig. 1

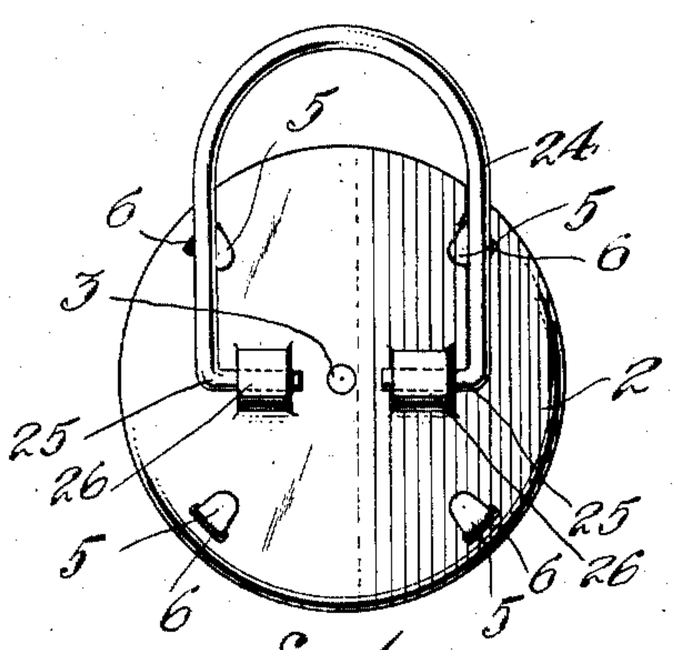

Fig. 4

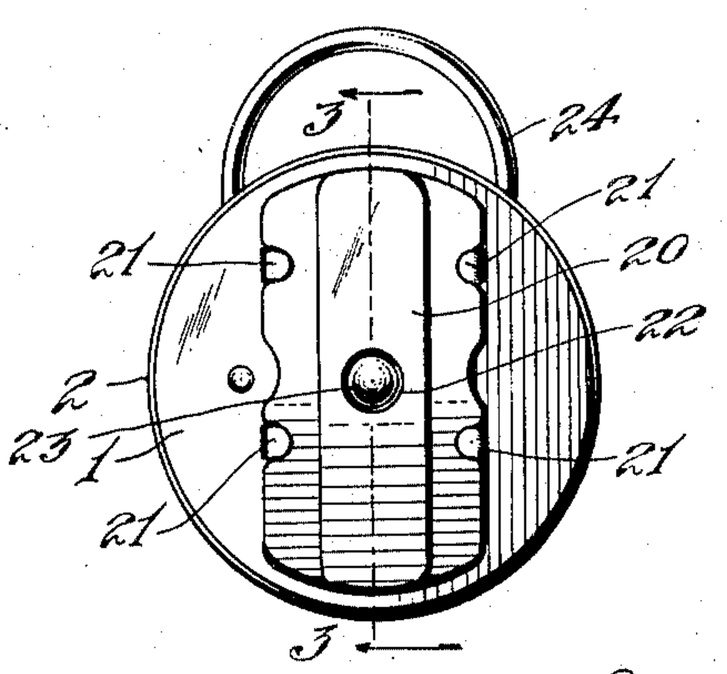

Fig. 5

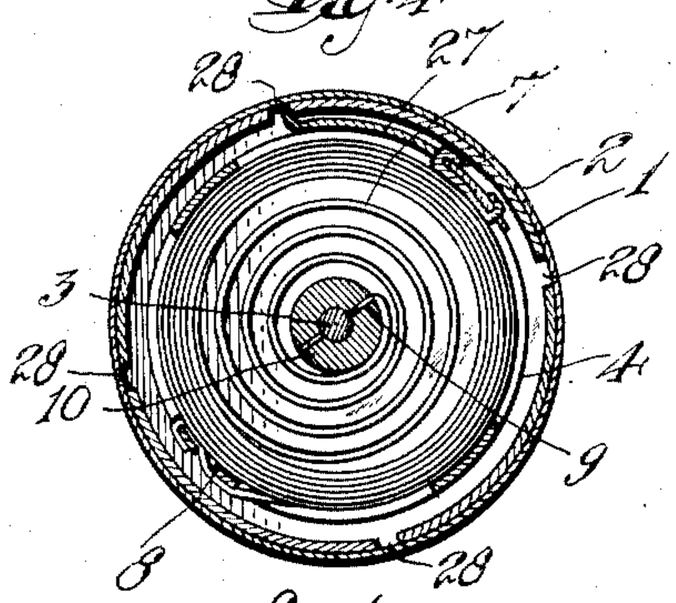

Fig. 6

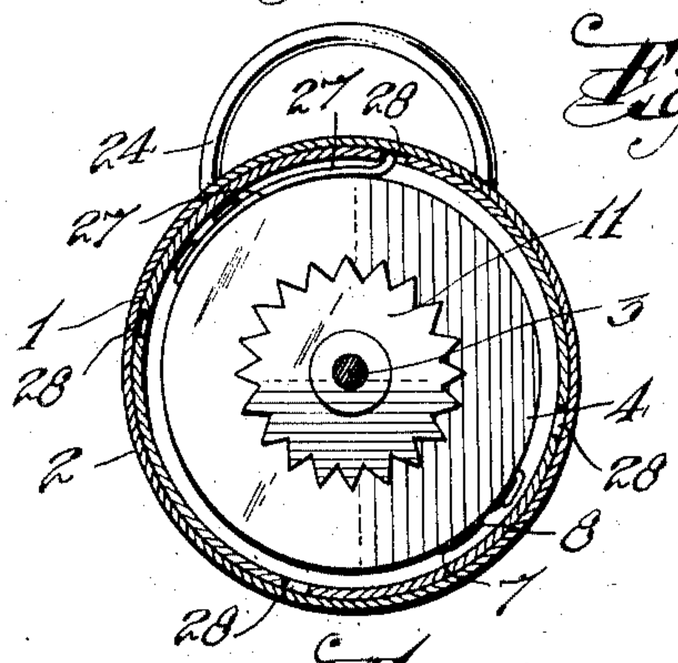

Fig. 7

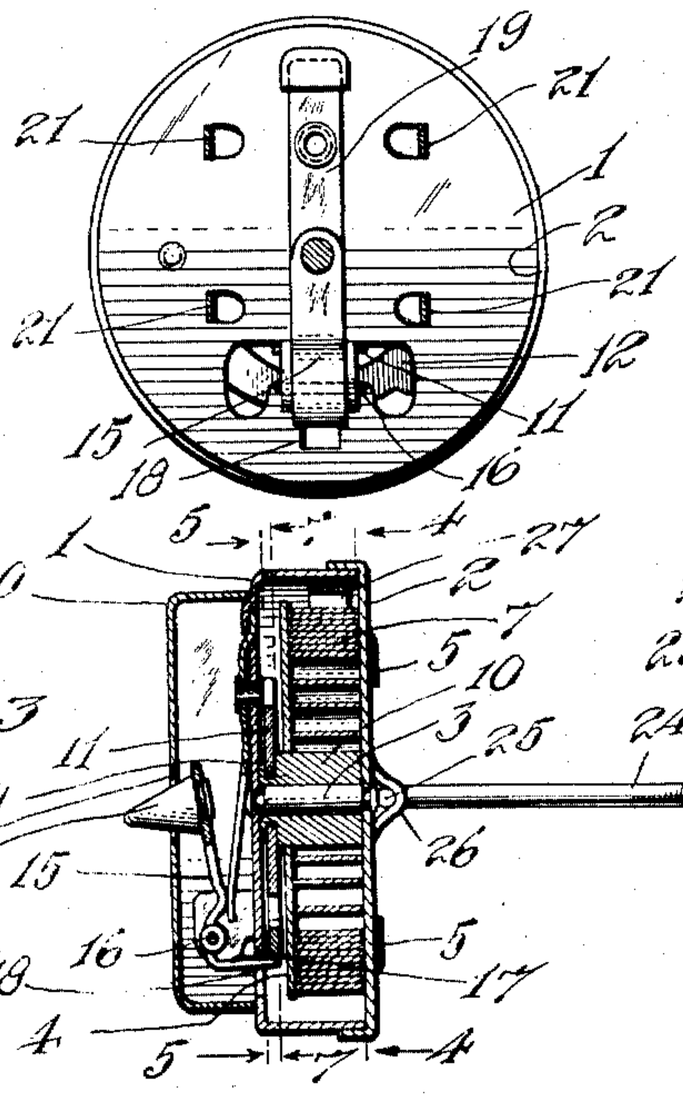

Fig. 3

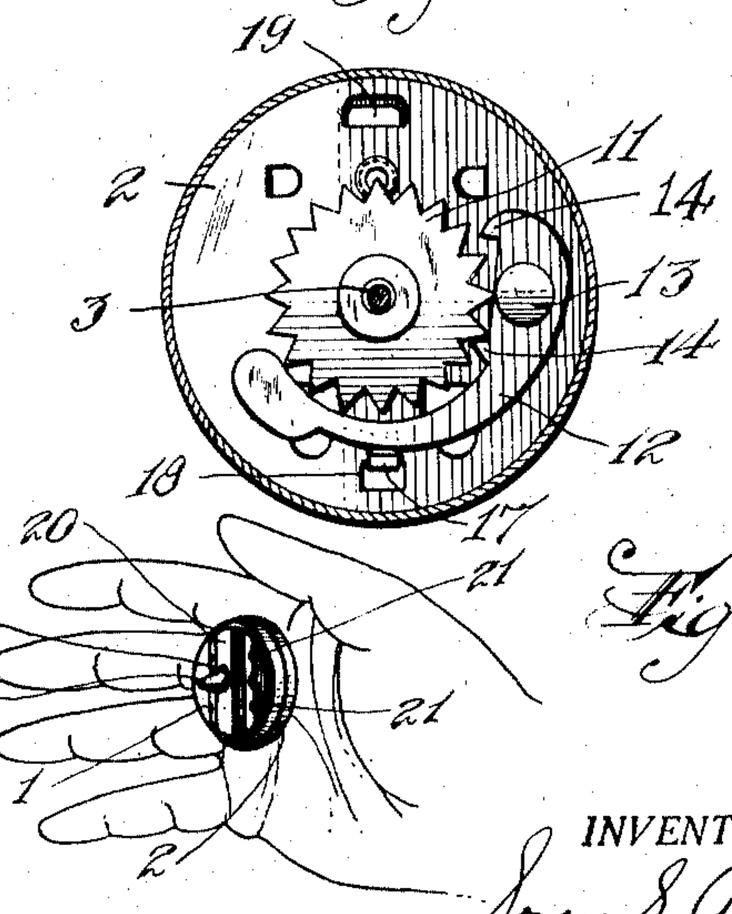

Fig. 8

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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JOKE BUZZER

Application filed November 12, 1931. Serial No. 574,580.

This invention relates in general to mechanical vibrators or buzzers, and more particularly to a vibrator or buzzer especially designed for use as a toy or in perpetrating jokes.

One object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved mechanical buzzer embodying features of construction and including a spring actuated buzzer and a releasing member to control operation thereof, the whole device being adapted to be concealed in a human hand so that upon pressure being exerted on the releasing member, as during a handclasp, the buzzer is released so as to startle the person grasping the hand in which the buzzer is concealed.

Another object is to provide such a buzzer which may also be set on a horizontal support with the releasing member exposed to receive pressure, for example in the seat of a chair, so that when a person sits in the chair the buzzer is released.

Other objects are to provide a device of the character described consisting of a casing having a spring actuated buzzer therein, a releasing member for controlling operation of the buzzer that has a portion projecting from one side of the casing to receive pressure, and a looped handle connected to the opposite side of the casing to receive the finger of the human hand; to provide such a device wherein the casing comprises two relatively rotatable sections, relative rotation of which serves to wind the spring for actuating the buzzer, and wherein said looped handle also serves as a grip for relatively rotating the casing sections; to provide a mechanical buzzer embodying a novel and improved construction, combination and arrangement of relatively rotatable casing sections, a spiral spring, a buzzer member, a releasing member for controlling operation of said buzzer, and a detent for preventing backward rotation of the rotatable casing sections while the spiral spring is being wound; and to obtain other advantages and results as will be brought out by the following description.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, in which corresponding and like parts are designated throughout the several views by the same reference characters,

Figure 1 is a plan view of one side of the mechanical buzzer embodying my invention;

Figure 2 is a similar view of the other side;

Figure 3 is a transverse vertical sectional view, on the line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a sectional view, on the line 4—4 of Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a similar view, on the line 5—5 of Figure 3;

Figure 6 is a view similar to Figure 2 with the auxiliary cover for the releasing member removed;

Figure 7 is a sectional view, on the line 7—7 of Figure 3, and

Figure 8 is a perspective view showing the manner of concealing the buzzer in a human hand.

Specifically describing the illustrated embodiment of the invention, the buzzer includes a main casing comprising two relatively rotatable cup-shaped sections 1 and 2 having their flanges in telescoping relation, as clearly shown in Figures 3 and 4. These sections are held together by a coaxial rivet or stud shaft 3. Upon one of the casing sections, in the present instance the section 2, is mounted a spring carrier 4, shown as secured to the casing section 2 by ears 5 passing through and clinched in openings 6 in the casing section. A spiral spring 7 has one end fixedly connected to the spring carrier, as at 8, and its other end secured at 9 to the spindle 10 of a toothed wheel 11 journaled on the stud shaft 3.

The toothed wheel 11 is arranged between the spring carrier 4 and the other casing section 1, and cooperates with a buzzer lever 12 pivotally mounted between its ends at 13 on

the casing section 1 and having two teeth 14 to engage the teeth of the wheel 11, so that upon rotation of the wheel the buzzer lever is oscillated. This buzzer lever is normally held against oscillation and pressed against the toothed wheel 11 to prevent rotation thereof under the influence of the spring 7, by a releasing member that is in the form of a lever 15 pivotally mounted intermediate its ends at 16 on the outside of the casing section 1, and having a lateral arm 17 projecting into the main casing through an opening 18 to engage the buzzer lever. The releasing member 15 is normally influenced by a spring 19 to hold the buzzer lever 12 against oscillation, as shown in the drawings.

On the outside of the casing section 1 is mounted an auxiliary casing 20 to enclose the releasing member 15, said auxiliary casing being secured to the main casing by lugs 21 stamped up from the main casing and clinched over the edges of the auxiliary casing, as clearly shown in Figure 2 of the drawings. The auxiliary casing has an opening 22 substantially coaxial with the main casing through which projects a portion 23 of the releasing member, so that said projecting portion is exposed to receive pressure for actuating the releasing member. As shown, this projecting portion 23 is approximately conical. The casing section 2 has pivotally mounted thereon at the side opposite the projecting portion 23 of the releasing member, a looped handle 24 which may project angularly from the casing, as shown in Figure 3, or lie parallel with said side of the casing and in contact therewith, as shown in Figures 1 and 2. As shown, the looped handle includes a single length of wire substantially U-shaped and having the ends of its arms 25 bent inwardly into axial alinement with each other and slipped beneath loops 26 stamped upwardly from the casing section 2.

With this construction, it will be observed that upon relative rotation of the two casing sections 1 and 2, the spiral spring 7 will be wound, and to prevent backward relative rotation of the casing sections during winding of the spring, a spring detent 27 is secured to the spring carrier to engage notches 28 in the flange of the casing section 1.

In use of the device, after the spiral spring 7 has been wound, the finger of a human hand may be slipped through the looped handle 24 so as to conceal the casing in the palm of the hand with the projecting portion 23 of the releasing member exposed. When the hand carrying the buzzer is proffered to another for a handshake, pressure during the handclasp actuates the releasing member 15 so that the buzzer lever 12 is oscillated by rotation of the toothed wheel 11 as the spring 7 unwinds. This causes a buzzing sound and a vibration which is startling to the person taking the proffered hand. If desired, the handle 24 may be arranged flatwise against the casing, as shown in Figure 1, and the casing may be then set on a horizontal support, for example the seat of a chair, with the projecting portion 23 of the releasing member exposed.

It will be observed that the handle 24 also facilitates relative rotation of the casing sections, and that the auxiliary casing 20 provides an additional grip for relatively rotating the casing sections. It will also be observed that it is impossible to overwind the spring 7, since when a predetermined tension has been produced in the spring, the toothed wheel will be directly rotated under the force relatively rotating the casing sections. The auxiliary casing is narrow and extends diametrically of the main casing so as to form in effect a wing or knob.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that the details of construction of the buzzer may be modified and changed without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention, and therefore I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself except as required by the following claims when construed in the light of the prior art.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:

1. A joke buzzer comprising a casing formed of two relatively rotatable sections, a spring carrier connected to one of said sections to rotate therewith, a spiral spring having one end connected to said carrier, a toothed wheel connected to the other end of said spring, a buzzer lever pivoted on the other casing section and having teeth engaged by said toothed wheel so that rotation of the latter oscillates said buzzer lever, a release member mounted on the second-mentioned casing section and releasably engaging said buzzer lever, a spring to hold the release member in engagement with said buzzer lever so that said spiral spring can be wound by relatively rotating said casing sections, and a detent for preventing backward rotation of said casing sections while said spiral spring is being wound, said releasing member having a portion projecting from said casing so that upon pressure being exerted upon said projecting portion of the releasing member the buzzer lever is released for oscillation.

2. A joke buzzer comprising a casing formed of two relatively rotatable sections, a spring carrier connected to one of said sections to rotate therewith, a spiral spring having one end connected to said carrier, a toothed wheel connected to the other end of said spring, a buzzer lever pivoted on the other casing section and having teeth engaged by said toothed wheel so that rotation of the latter oscillates said buzzer lever, a release member mounted on the second-mentioned casing section and releasably engaging said buzzer lever, a spring to hold the release

member in engagement with said buzzer lever so that said spiral spring can be wound by relatively rotating said casing sections, said releasing member having a portion projecting from one side of said casing so that upon pressure being exerted upon said projecting portion of the releasing member the buzzer is released for oscillation, a detent for preventing backward rotation of said casing sections while the spring is being wound, and a handle loop pivotally mounted on the side of said casing opposite from said projection portion of the releasing member.

3. A joke buzzer comprising a casing formed of two relatively rotatable sections, a spring mounted in said casing and having one end connected to one section, a toothed wheel connected to the other end of said spring to be rotated thereby, a buzzer member engaging and actuated by said wheel upon rotation of the latter, a releasing member for releasably holding said buzzer member against movement, so that said spring is wound by relatively rotating said casing sections, and a detent to prevent backward rotation of said casing sections during winding of the spring, said releasing member having a portion projecting from said casing so that upon pressure being exerted upon said projecting portion of the releasing member the buzzer is released to the action of the toothed wheel.

4. A joke buzzer comprising a casing having a spring actuated buzzer therein, a releasing member for controlling operation of said buzzer having a portion projecting from one side of said casing so that upon pressure being exerted on said projecting portion the buzzer is released for operation, and a looped handle connected to the opposite side of said casing to receive a finger of a human hand whereby the casing can be conveniently held in the palm of the hand with said projecting portion of said releasing member exposed.

5. A joke buzzer comprising a casing having two opposite sides one of which is approximately flat, a spring actuated buzzer in said casing, a releasing member for controlling operation of said buzzer and having a portion projecting from the other side of said casing to receive pressure for releasing said buzzer for operation, and a handle loop pivoted upon the first-mentioned side of the casing to project angularly therefrom or to lie substantially parallel thereto.

6. A joke buzzer comprising a main casing having a spring actuated tooth wheel and a buzzer member operated thereby, a releasing member on the exterior of said main casing and having a portion entering the main casing to releasably engage said buzzer member and control its operation, an auxiliary casing for said releasing lever mounted on said side of said main casing, said auxiliary casing having an opening concentric with said main casing and said releasing member having a portion projecting outwardly through said opening to be exposed to pressure, and a spring for normally actuating said releasing lever to cause engagement of said lever with said buzzer member and to move said projecting portion through said opening.

7. As an article of manufacture, a toy buzzer adapted for joke purposes comprising a casing and vibratory mechanism associated therewith, said casing including a plurality of sections relatively movable for energizing said mechanism.

8. As an article of manufacture, a toy buzzer adapted for joke purposes comprising a casing having one side formed as a substantially flat base for supporting the casing and vibratory mechanism associated therewith including vibratory means at another side of said casing and a releasing member projecting from said other side of the casing arranged to be uppermost when the buzzer is supported on said flat base, and means in the casing for actuating said vibratory means.

9. As an article of manufacture, a toy buzzer adapted for joke purposes comprising a casing having one side formed as a substantially flat base for supporting the casing and vibratory mechanism associated therewith including a vibratory element at another side of said casing, and means in the casing for actuating said element, said casing including a plurality of sections relatively movable for energizing said actuating means.

10. As an article of manufacture, a toy buzzer adapted for joke purposes comprising a casing having one side formed as a substantially flat base for supporting the casing and vibratory mechanism associated therewith including a vibratory element at another side of said casing, and means in the casing for actuating said element, said flat base of the casing having means formed for connecting it to a finger of a person's hand whereby the buzzer my be supported by said finger.

11. As an article of manufacture, a toy buzzer adapted for joke purposes comprising a casing having one side formed as a substantially flat base for supporting the casing and vibratory mechanism associated therewith including a vibratory element at another side of said casing, and means in the casing for actuating said element, said flat base of the casing having means formed for connecting it to a finger of a person's hand whereby the buzzer may be supported by said finger and being also movable into a flat position alongside said base whereby the buzzer may be supported by having the base rest on a suitable surface.

12. As an article of manufacture, a toy buzzer adapted for joke purposes comprising a casing having one side formed as a substan-

tially flat base for supporting the casing and vibratory mechanism associated therewith including a vibratory element at another side of said casing, and means in the casing for actuating said element, said flat base of the casing having means formed for connecting it to a finger of a person's hand whereby the buzzer may be supported by said finger and including a supporting strap movable into a plane alongside said base when the buzzer is to be supported by its base resting on a suitable surface.

SOREN S. ADAMS.