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M. SPIEGEL

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AMUSEMENT DEVICE FOR SELECTIVE EXHIBITION OF FIGURINES

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Fig. 1.

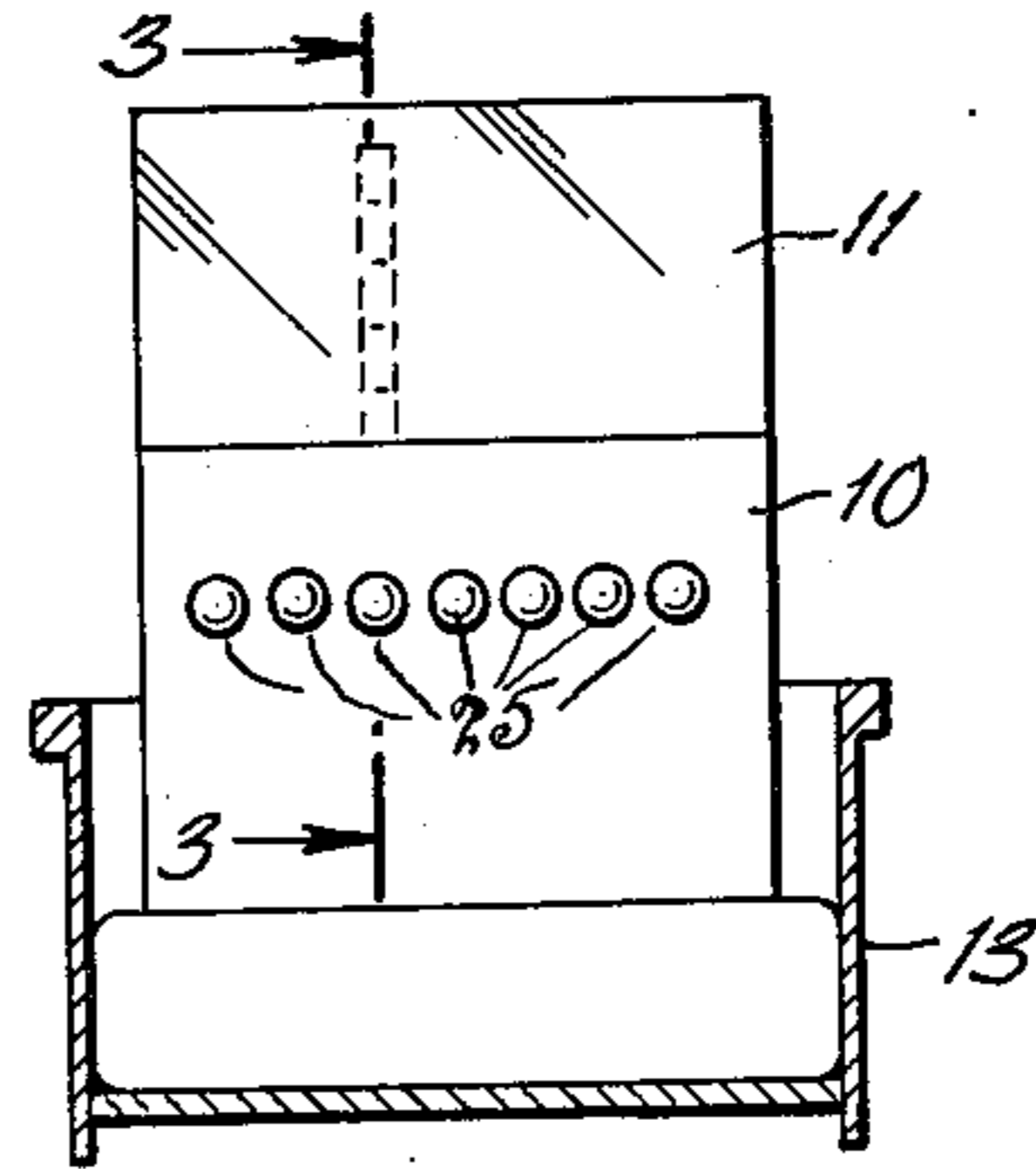
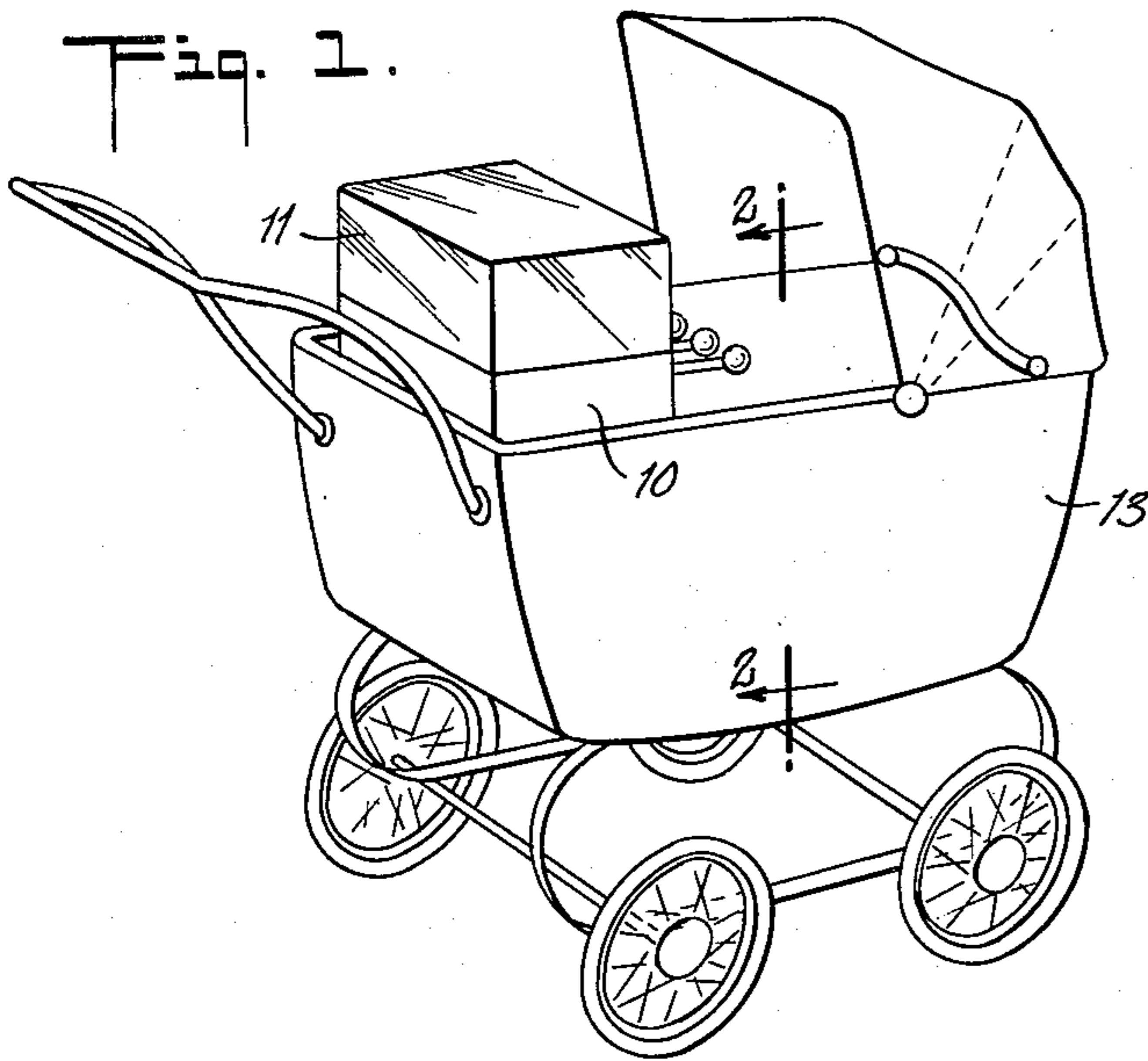


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

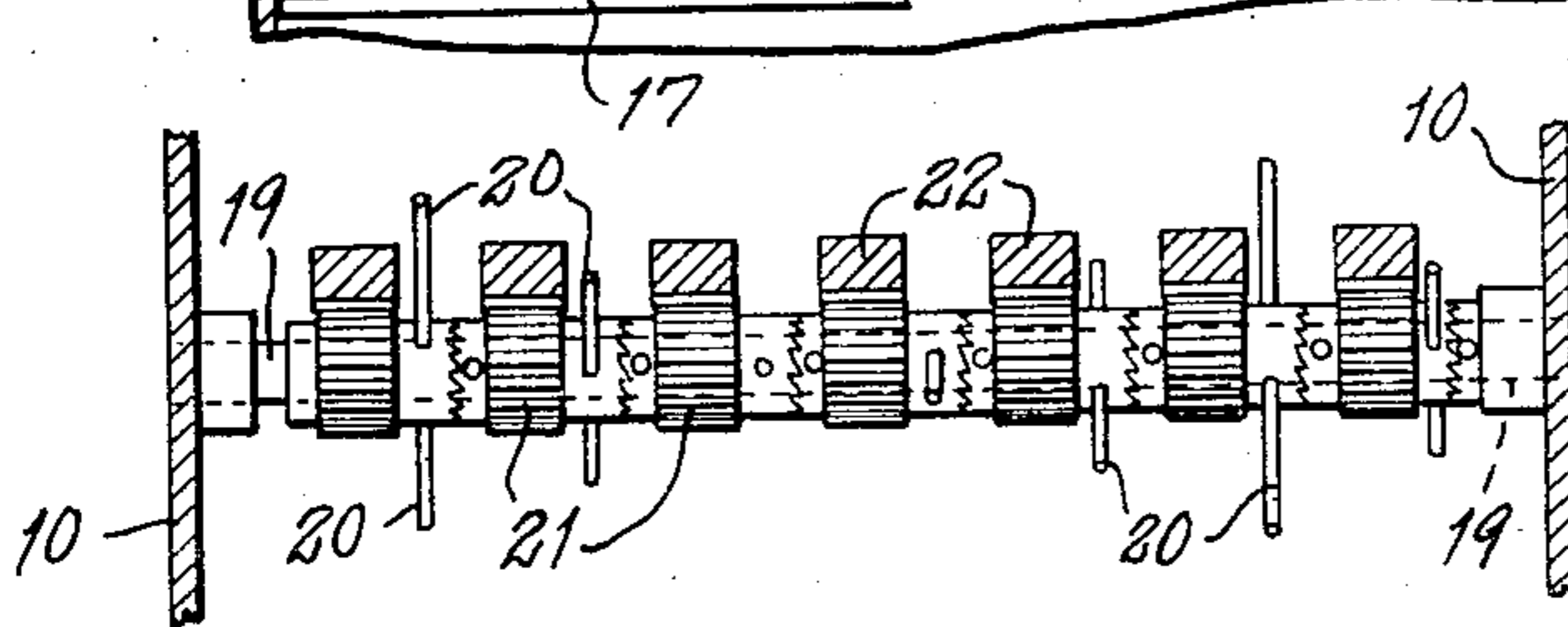
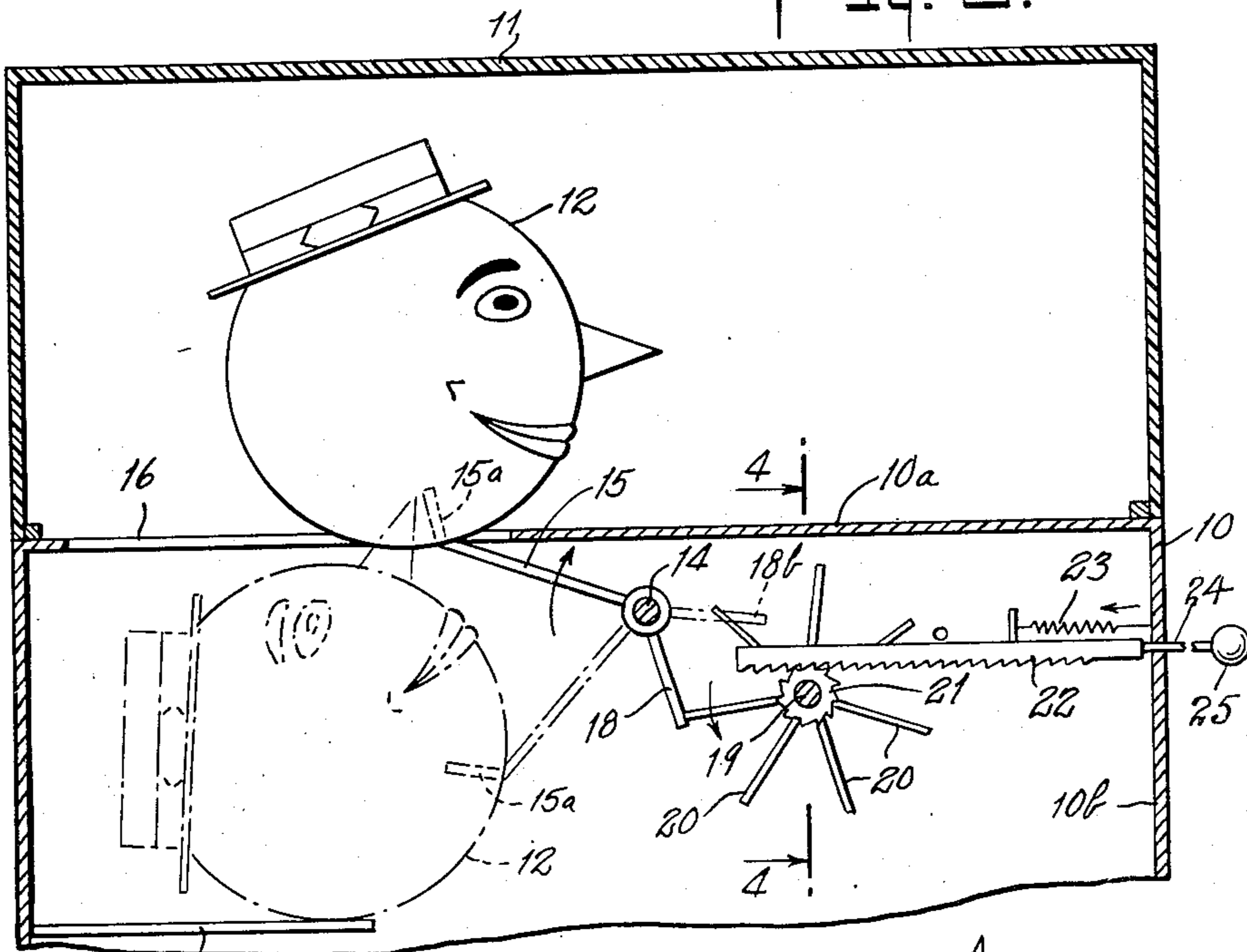


Fig. 4.

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AMUSEMENT DEVICE FOR SELECTIVE
EXHIBITION OF FIGURINES

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2 Claims. (Cl. 46—119)

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This invention relates to improvements in amusement devices, and particularly to amusement devices for selective exhibition of figurines which are adapted to be mounted in a baby carriage and to be operated by a young child or baby.

One of the objects of this invention is to provide an amusement device having manually-operating elements so arranged and the operation of which is so simple that it may be accomplished by a young child or baby.

Another object of my invention is to provide an amusement device which includes an exhibition casing completely enclosing the images or figurines to protect the same against handling and breakage and which is formed of an unshatterable transparent plastic material and is capable of being mounted in a baby carriage, but which may, of course, be mounted independently of the carriage on a suitable table or other support and may be operated by or for the amusement of children.

Another object of this invention is to provide a device of the type specified mechanism which may be operated by the mere inward pushing of an operating handle to cause exposure of a clown, doll or other figurine adapted to amuse children, and which mechanism upon release of the handle will assume its initial operative position, while the figurine, such as the face of a clown or the like, will be held or retained in exposed position until another operating handle of the device is operated, whereupon the face of the figurine or clown then being exposed will be moved or dropped down, and another different figurine or image will be moved into the exhibition space within the enclosing casing and similarly held therein till still another operating handle is pushed. Also in case the same operating handle is pushed a second time in immediate succession to the first operation thereof and while a figurine is exposed, such succeeding operation will only cause the figurine to drop or fall down out of sight, while a third push on the same handle will raise the figurine again and hold the same in exposed position.

With these and other objects in view, the invention comprises the combination of members and arrangement of parts so combined as to co-act and cooperate with each other in the performance of the functions and the accomplishment of the results herein contemplated, and comprises in one of its adaptations the species or preferred form illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

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Fig. 1 is a view of my amusement device mounted in a baby carriage;

Fig. 2 is a view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1 showing the front elevation of the device mounted in a baby carriage;

Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2 illustrating my simplified mechanism for exposing a figurine, such as a clown or the like, and holding the same in exposed position until the handle and mechanism for exposing another figurine is operated;

Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3 showing an amusement device having mechanism for exposing seven different figurines.

Referring now to these drawings, the device consists of a mechanism-enclosing casing 10 which may be composed of metal, wood or any other suitable material, and above said casing 10 I preferably provide an exhibition-casing 11 composed of transparent plastic material within which exhibition-casing figurines or images 12 will be completely enclosed, but will be exposed to the view of a baby or other child while at the same time such figurines or images will be protected from breakage or handling by the child.

As illustrated in Fig. 1, the amusement device is mounted at the rear of a baby carriage 13 with the handles projecting forwardly to permit operation thereof by a baby being carried in normal position in the baby carriage 13.

Within the mechanism-enclosing casing 10, I mount in any suitable manner a shaft 14 having projecting therefrom a series of elongated mounting-arms 15 each of which is movable or rocked from figurine-lowered to a figurine-erected position, both shown in Fig. 3. These arms 15 extend radially from the shaft 14 at varying positions along its length and each mounting-arm 15 has suitably fastened or fixed at the outer end thereof a figurine or image 12, such as the head of a clown, doll or the like, so positioned that upon the upward swinging of the arm 15 the figurine will pass through exposure opening 16 in the top closure member 10^a of the casing 10 into exposed or erected position. Upon the turning of the shaft 14, an arm 15 will therefore be raised to cause said head to be moved from the dotted line position shown in Fig. 3 into the full-line exposed or erected position above said opening 16 as illustrated in said Fig. 3.

The openings 16 preferably extend above and to one side of the shaft 14, and the raising or erecting arms 15 are each preferably provided

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with a bent portion 15^a, which in erected position passes vertically through the slot and the images or figurines are mounted on this bent portion 15^a to extend into a substantial vertical position when said arms 15 are moved into the raised position shown in Fig. 3. Said figurine is positively held by the arm 15 in its erected or exposed position above the opening 16 and is adapted by its own weight to fall down into the lower position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3 when said arm is released and falls down also. When the weight of the figurine or image 4 is relied upon to drop into the said dotted line position, a spring member 17 is preferably provided to engage the figurine to prevent breakage thereof.

In order to move and hold the arms 15 and the attached image or figurine in erected position, I provide for each figurine an operating lever 18 extending from the shaft 14 in a direction opposite to the projection of the supporting arm 15, and adapted upon movement to turn the shaft and move the arm 15 to erected position. These levers 18 are normally arranged in the dotted line position shown at 18^b and are movable into the full line position shown at 18 to raise the image 12 into exposed position.

In order to move these levers 18 to swing the supporting arm 15 and figurine 12 into raised position, I provide operating means comprising a separate shaft 19 provided with a series of seven operating arms 20, see Fig. 4. These operating arms 20 are so arranged along the length of the shaft 19 that one of them will engage a lever 18 at the position 18^b shown in Fig. 3 and will move the same into the position shown in full lines in said Fig. 3. These arms 20 are so arranged that upon raising and moving of another image 12 into the raised position, they will immediately release the initially erected image, whereupon the initially-raised image will drop as hereinabove stated.

In order to move the arms 20 into the engaging and releasing position shown, I provide means for turning the shaft 19 comprising a toothed gear 21 having its teeth slanted toward the right and a rack 22 having its teeth slanting in the opposite direction and engaging the inclined teeth of the gear 21. The teeth of the rack are suitably held in engagement with the teeth of the gear.

In the preferred embodiment of my invention illustrated, for the purpose of swinging the figurine 12 upwardly the rack 22 is moved forwardly by the rod 24 on which an operating knob handle 25 is mounted and a spring 23 is stretched between the rack 22 and the wall 10^b of the casing 10. Said spring 23 is adapted, immediately after the manual pushing inwardly of the knob 25 and rod 24, to cause the teeth of the rack to slide over inclined teeth of the gear 21 so as to reposition the manually-operable rod 24 and knob 25. Obviously, when a series of these inclined toothed gears 21 and inclined toothed racks 22 are provided on an operating shaft 19, the movement of one knob will pull down a lever 18 to raise an arm 15 and image 12 and movement of a different manually-operable knob will release the initially raised and held lever 18 and raise a figurine connected with said different knob. The turning of

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the shaft 19 will thus by pushing in of a second rod and handle attached to another figurine cause release of the member 19 from the member 18 of the initially held figurine and thus will cause said figurine 12 to fall down into the dotted line position in the casing shown in Fig. 3 and will simultaneously raise the second figurine into erected position. Of course, if the same handle is pushed twice in succession, it will, in accordance with the position of the figurine, either erect the same or cause a dropping of the same.

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. An amusement device comprising an exhibition platform having a series of holes therein, mechanism below said platform comprising a rocking shaft mounted below said exhibition platform and provided at one side thereof with figurine-mounting rods, each adapted upon the rocking of said shaft to move a figurine from hidden to erected position and vice versa, said rocking shaft being provided at the side thereof opposite to said mounting rods with a rocking lever for each figurine-mounting rod, an operating shaft provided along its length with a series of operating rods at varying circumferential positions around its surface, each of which operating rods is adapted to engage a rocking lever of a figurine, and means for turning said shaft into successive positions wherein the operating rods connected thereto will engage and release rocking levers to move said figurines from hidden to erected positions and vice versa.

2. An amusement device comprising an exhibition platform having a series of holes therein, mechanism below said platform comprising a rocking shaft mounted below said exhibition platform and provided at one side thereof with figurine-mounting rods, each adapted upon the rocking of said shaft to move a figurine from hidden to erected position and vice versa, said rocking shaft being provided at the side thereof opposite to said mounting rods with a rocking lever for each figurine-mounting rod, an operating shaft provided along its length with a series of operating rods at varying circumferential positions around its surface, each of which operating rods is adapted to engage a rocking lever of a figurine, and means for turning said shaft into successive positions wherein the operating rods connected thereto will engage and release locking levers to move said figurines from hidden to erected positions and vice versa, said operating shaft-turning means comprising a gearing on said operating shaft having slip teeth inclined in one direction and a rack provided with slip teeth inclined in the opposite direction, and handle means operatively connected to said rack and operable by a simple straight movement of the handle to turn said operating shaft and successively release one rod and engage another rod to move said figurines from hidden to erected position, and vice versa.

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