Jan. 5, 1937. W. B. REYNOLDS 2,066,799

HOOP BALL

Filed Feb. 13, 1936

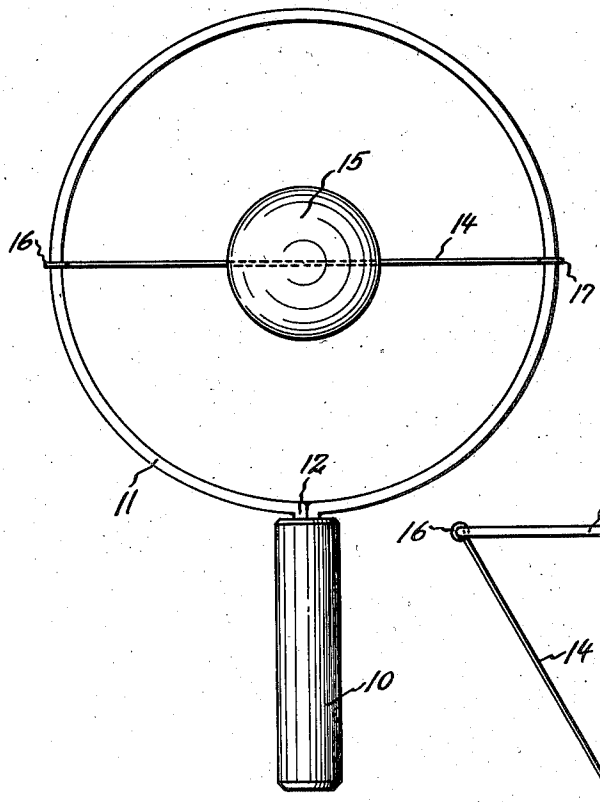

FIG. 1

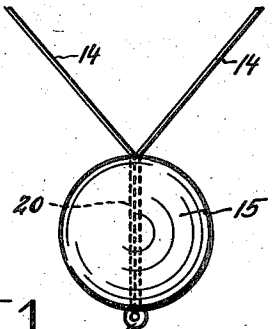

FIG. 3

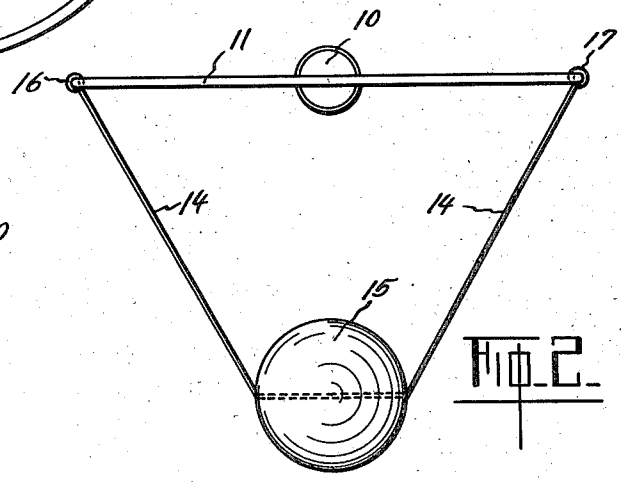

FIG. 2

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HOOP BALL

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Application February 13, 1936, Serial No. 63,742

1 Claim. (Cl. 273—97)

This invention relates to toys of the type comprising a ball suitably attached to a handle wherein a decided degree of skill and dexterity of movement is required to propel the ball in desired directions.

The object of this invention is to provide a rigid loop at the end of a handle and to attach to said loop by an elastic cord, a ball, adapted upon suitable manipulation by the person operating the toy to be passed through said loop from one side to the other.

Other objects of the invention relate to the manner of attaching the elastic cord both to the loop element and to the ball, as well as to provide an improved toy of this character which is simple in construction and operation and designed to amuse not only children but also adults.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawing forms a part, in which the separate parts of the invention are designated by the same reference characters in each of the views, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the toy,

Figure 2 is a front elevational view thereof,

Figure 3 is a detail view showing a modified method of attaching the elastic cord to the ball.

The improved toy comprises a handle 10 of any desired shape and material which is provided at one end with a stiff or rigid loop 11 of circular or any other shape. The loop 11 is preferably made of a single length of stiff wire bent in the form of a circle with the ends of the wire arranged in abutting relation to provide a stem 12, that is adapted to be inserted longitudinally within the handle and secured thereto in any suitable manner. It is to be understood that the form of loop and handle shown constitutes one embodiment of the same as the loop may be made and attached to the handle in any number of ways. For example, the loop 11 may be in the form of a ring made either of flat or round metallic stock and may be attached to the handle by means of a screw or rivet. If the handle is of metal the loop 11 may be spotwelded thereto.

Suspended from the loop 11 by an elastic cord 14 is a ball 15. The elastic cord 14 is of the type commonly referred to as a rubber band, the ends of which are attached to the loop 11 at diametrically opposed points 16 and 17 as clearly shown in Figure 1. The ends of the elastic cord are secured in any suitable manner to the wire loop, and preferably by a double ball-hitch knot. To fasten the ball 15 on the elastic cord 14 the same is drawn through a diametral opening in the ball of less width than the thickness of said cord. Inasmuch as the ball 15 is preferably of rubber there will be a friction grip between the ball and the elastic cord that is more than sufficient to hold the ball in place. In order for the toy to function properly the elastic cord on each side of the ball, see Figure 2, should be of equal length.

To properly use this toy, the handle is held in the hand of the person playing with the same, and by a proper manipulation thereof the ball is passed through the loop from one side to the other. This is generally done by bouncing the ball on the floor, then through the loop and to the floor on the other side, back through the loop and so on. Numerous variations in the manner of playing with the toy readily present themselves, as for example, a skillful operator may pass the ball through the loop from side to side without the same touching the floor.

In Figure 3 there is shown an alternate manner of affixing the ball 15 to the elastic cord 14, in the form of toy shown in Figure 1. This is accomplished by bringing together the intermediate portion of the elastic cord 14 as at 20 and inserting the same through a diametral opening in the ball 15. The ball 15 is pulled up on the end portion 20 of the elastic cord so that the looped end 21 thereof will project from the lower surface of the ball. In view of the elastic nature of the elastic cord 14, the end 21 will assume its natural size thus assisting in holding the ball 15 securely in place. Again both sections of the elastic cord 14 should be of the same length to insure proper suspension of the ball as well as balance thereof, as will be readily appreciated.

Having thus set forth and disclosed the nature of this invention, what is claimed is:

A toy comprising a handle, a loop secured to one end of said handle, an elastic cord secured at its ends to said loop at points diametrically opposed to each other, a ball provided with a diametral opening, said elastic cord centrally of its ends being folded to form an end portion adapted to be inserted entirely through said ball opening and to project a slight distance beyond the same to define a looped end, said end portion being held in friction tight engagement within said ball opening.

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