April 20, 1965 A. MARINO 3,179,409

ELASTIC AMUSEMENT TOY

Filed Oct. 30, 1962

FIG. 1.

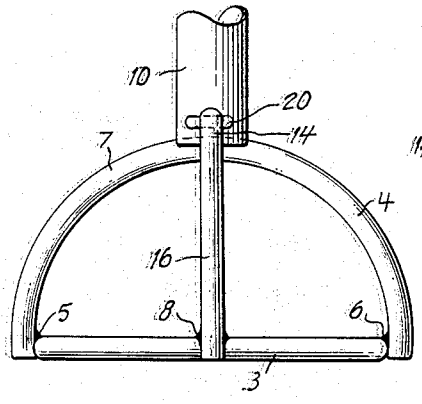


FIG. 2.

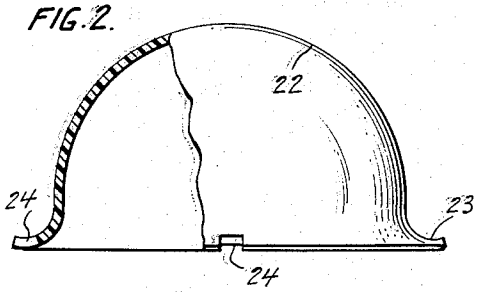


FIG. 3

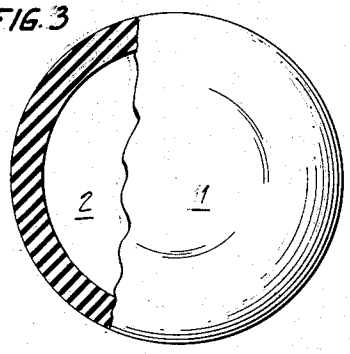


FIG. 4.

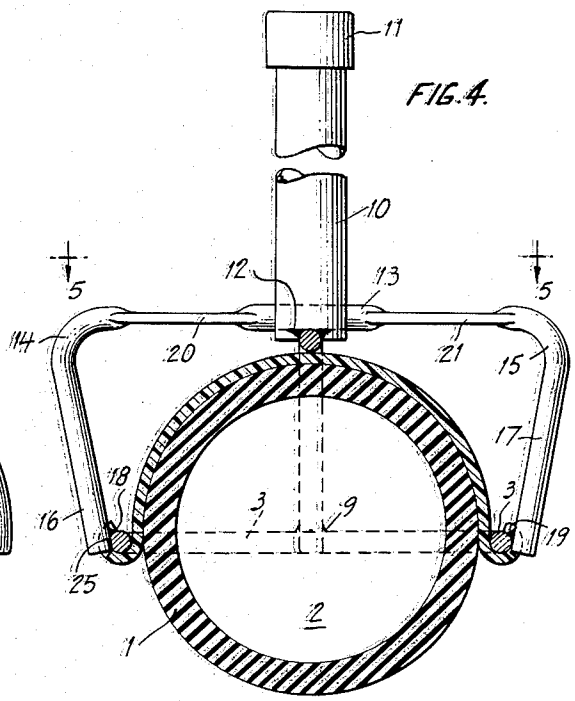
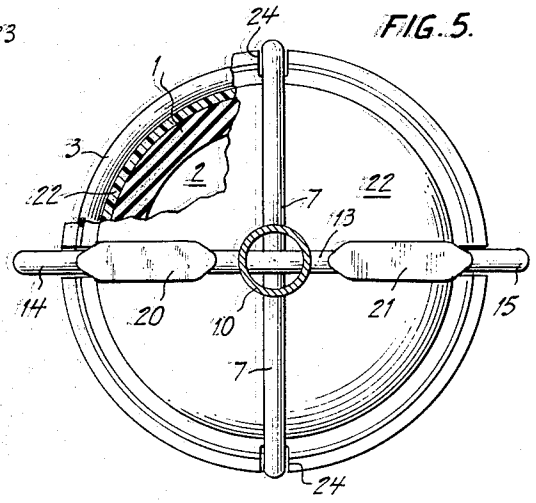


FIG. 5.



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ELASTIC AMUSEMENT TOY

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1 Claim. (Cl. 272—57)

The present invention is directed to toys, and more particularly to the type wherein the child places himself thereon and causes the toy to move.

It is among the objects of the present invention to provide a toy of the type described on which the child may stand, which is readily manipulated by him in all directions and which may be used by the child for obtaining exercise by himself, or may be used in competitive sport by him.

It is also among the objects of the present invention to provide a toy which is simple in construction, which is light in weight and is sturdy, and has a resilient or elastic element which is highly effective and which is readily replaceable.

It is further among the objects of the present invention to provide a toy of the above described character which in use shows substantially no wear and which embodies a resilient member having a large area of support to avoid wear.

In the accompanying drawing constituting a part hereof, and in which like reference characters indicate like parts,

FIG. 1 is a side elevational view of the toy of the present invention showing the frame thereof and having some parts broken away for clearness;

FIG. 2 is a front elevational view of an inverted cup constituting a part of the toy and shown partly in section;

FIG. 3 is a similar view of the elastic or resilient member or ball, being shown partly broken away for clearness;

FIG. 4 is a front elevational view of the completed toy, which is an assembly of the elements shown in FIGS. 1, 2 and 3, some parts being shown in section for clearness; and

FIG. 5 is a top plan view thereof taken along line 5—5 of FIG. 4.

An essential element of the toy is a ball **1** or the like made of elastic material such as vulcanized rubber, here shown as being spherical in shape. The center **2** of the ball is hollow so that the ball is elastic. The frame consists of a yoke which has as an essential element an annulus **3** located at about the horizontal diameter of ball **1**. A convex connector **4** of approximately a semi-circle, is welded to annulus **3** at points **5** and **6**. A similar convex connector **7** has its plane at right angles to the plane of a connector **4**. It is welded to annulus **3** at points **8** and **9**. Elements **3**, **4** and **7** are preferably tubular.

A vertical handle **10** in the form of a tube has a cap **11** at the upper end thereof. The lower end is welded at **12** to the center point of connector **7**. Bar **13** in horizontal position is welded at the junction of handle **12** and connector **7**. At the ends **14** and **15** of bar **13** are downward extensions **16** and **17**, respectively, the ends of which are welded at **18** and **19**, respectively, of annulus **3**. On opposite sides of handle **10**, areas **20** and **21** of bar **13** are flattened to form foot rests. Both bar **13** and extensions **16** and **17** remain tubular in shape. This gives both lightness and strength to the entire structure.

Ball **1** may be held within the yoke formed by elements **3**, **4** and **7** and will operate satisfactorily. However, the stresses imposed on ball **1** in use are concentrated at relatively small areas so that wear of the ball is likely to occur. In order to avoid this, there is provided as shown in FIG. 2, a cup-shaped member **22** which is inverted. The edges **23** thereof are turned up and notches **24** are provided along the periphery of about 90° apart. Cup **22** is inserted in the yoke and edge **23** is curled over annulus **3** as shown at **25**. Thereby it is held securely in position. The cup gives complete support to the ball over about half of its area and practically eliminates any possibility of damage to the ball even in severe use of the toy.

Although the invention has been described setting forth a single specific embodiment thereof, various changes in the details may be made within the spirit of the invention. For instance, one or more of the members constituting the frame or yoke may be of solid material and any suitable type of material for the purpose may be used. The shape of the yoke or of the annulus may be other than that shown and both the cup and the ball may be similarly shaped to fit into the yoke. The ball need not be spherical but other shapes may be used, such as oval, or the like. The ball may be made inflatable so that various pressures may be introduced into the hollow thereof depending upon the weight of the individual who uses the toy. The handle may have a different form than shown; it may have a cross bar for grapsing with the hands, and cap **11** may be omitted or replaced by a different element.

These and other changes may be made in the details without departing from the spirit of the invention, which is to be broadly construed and not to be limited except by the character of the claim appended hereto.

I claim:

A toy comprising, a hollow resilient ball, a cup fitted over the upper portion of said ball, the cup having an upturned peripheral lower edge, a pair of yokes extending over the cup and crossing one another, each yoke being provided with downwardly-extending legs, the legs of both of the yokes being connected by an annulus encircling the cup, the annulus being confined in the upturned edge of the cup, one of the yokes having a horizontal cross bar flattened at spaced points to form foot rests, and a vertical handle extending upwardly from one of the yokes at a point between the foot rests, said yokes crossing one another at substantially right angles; the edge of the cup being curled upwardly and outwardly; one of the yokes being arcuately shaped to conform to the convex exterior of the cup, and the edge of the cup being notched at spaced points to receive the legs of the yokes.

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