L. M. LATTA.

TOY CIRCUS.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 8, 1921.

1,405,047.

Patented Jan. 31, 1922.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

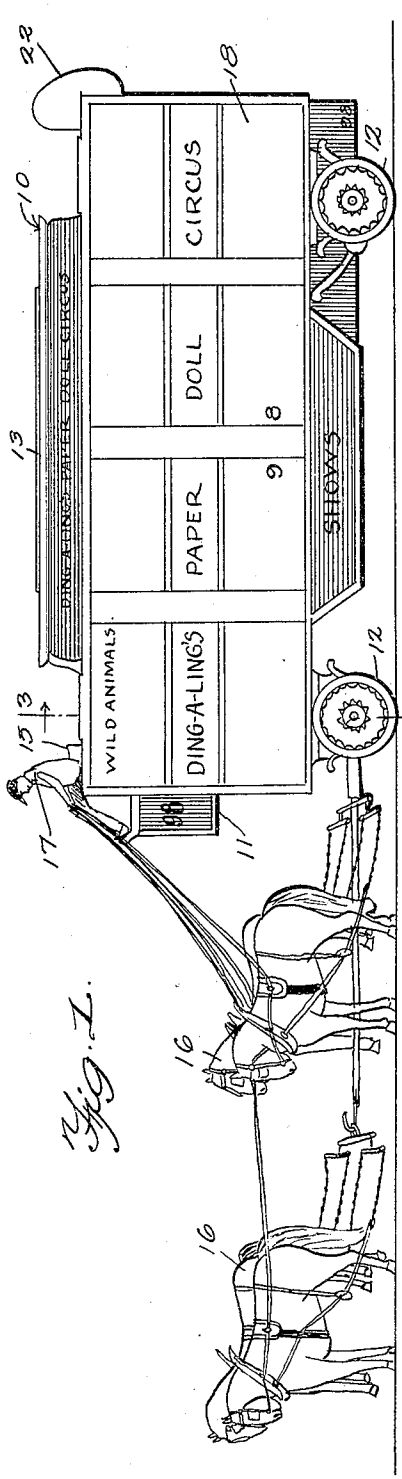


Fig. 1.

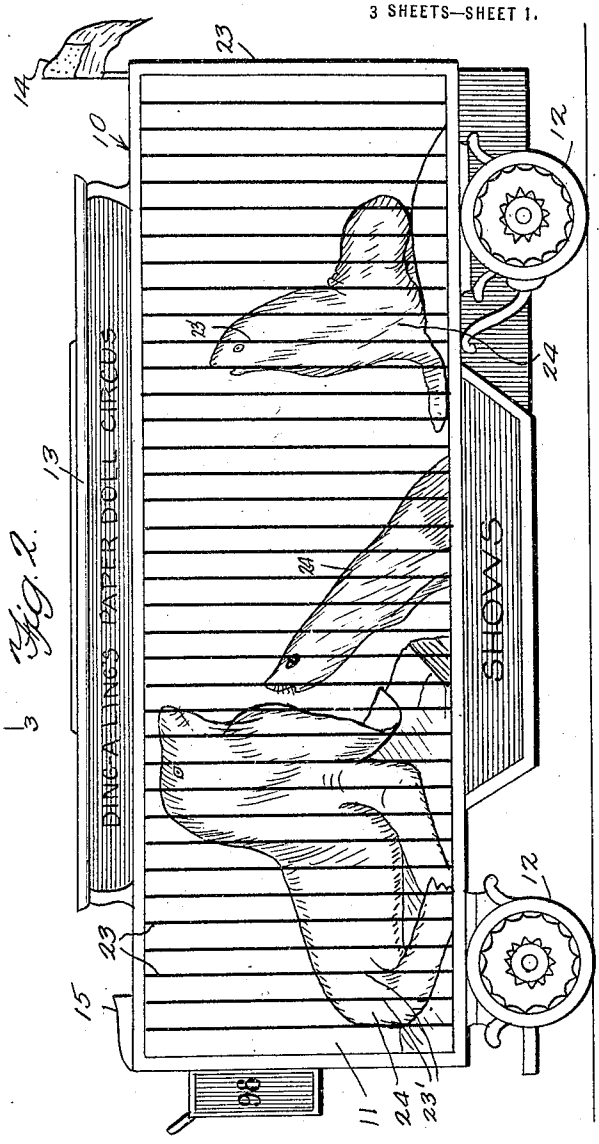


Fig. 2.

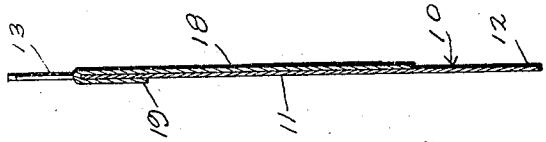


Fig. 3.

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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

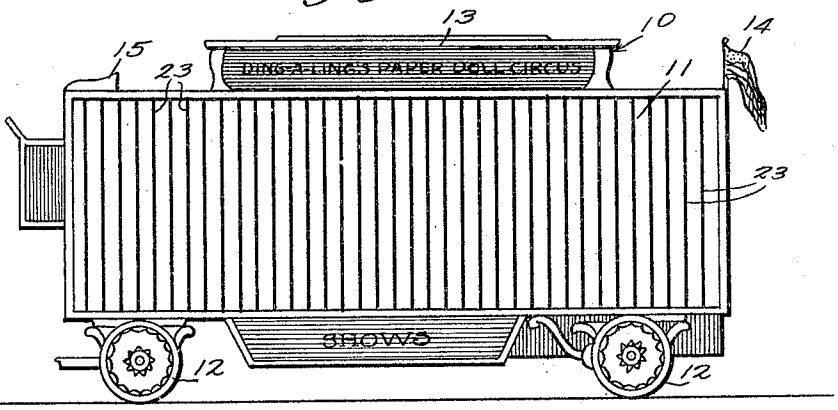


Fig. 5.

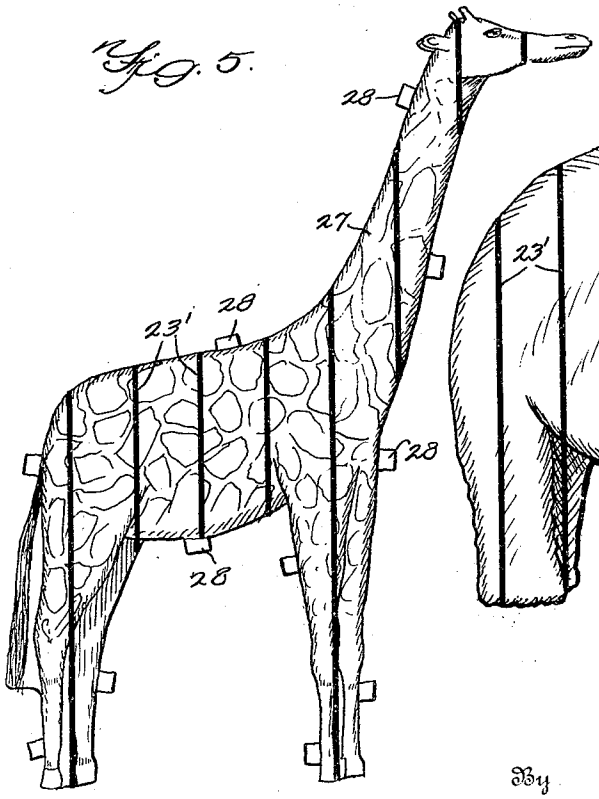
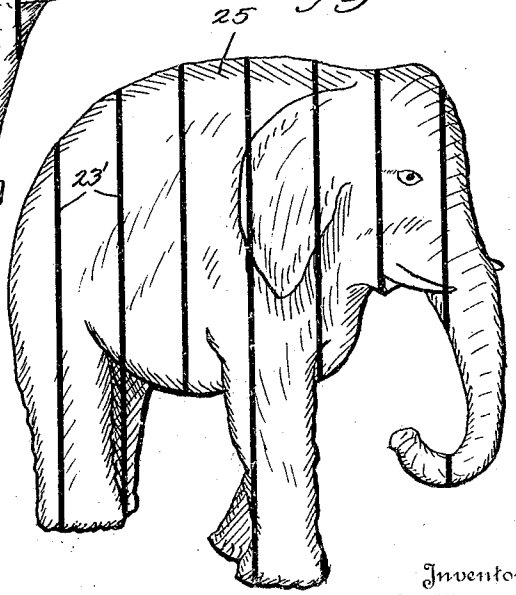


Fig. 6.



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 7.

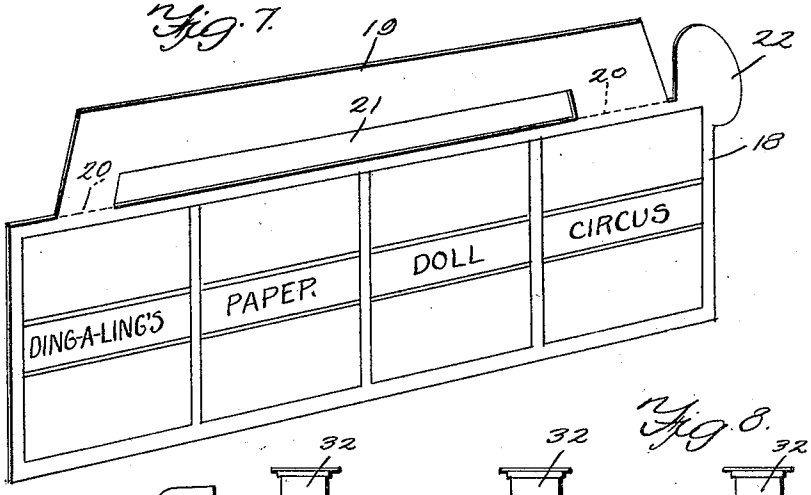


Fig. 8.

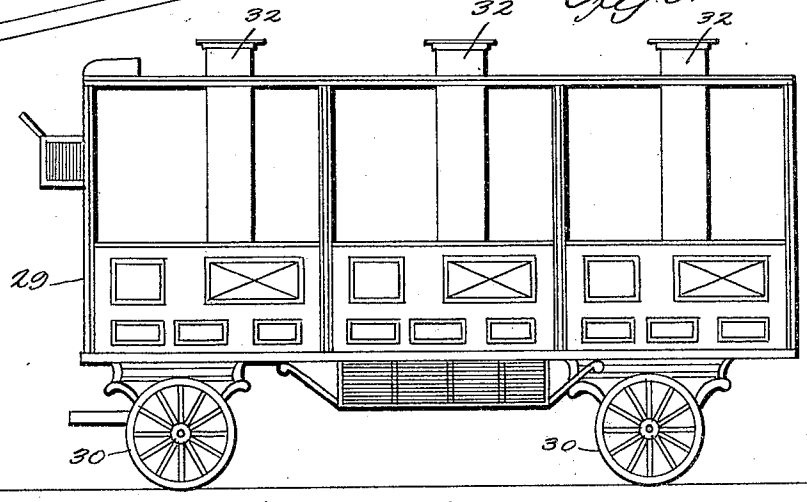
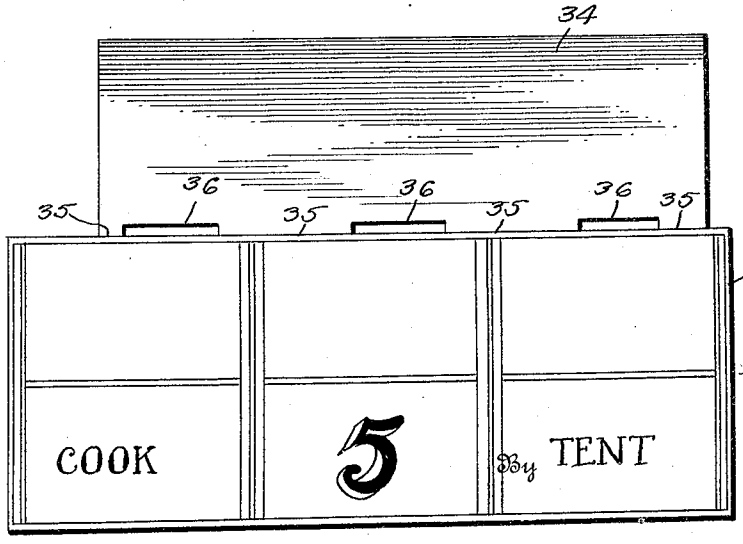


Fig. 9



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TOY CIRCUS.

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Application filed March 8, 1921. Serial No. 450,524.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS M. LATTA, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianola, in the county of Warren and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toy Circus, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to toys, and has particular reference to a toy circus, or elements thereof.

An important object of the invention is to provide a device of the above mentioned character, adapted to be cut or stamped from a sheet, such as cardboard, sheet metal or the like, and which is accordingly inexpensive to manufacture.

A further object of the invention is to provide a simulation or representation of a toy circus cage, having means whereby a child may select different animals, formed from paper or the like, and secure them upon the cage, and produce the effect or appearance that the animals are behind the bars of the cage.

A further object of the invention is to provide a simulation or representation of a wheeled circus cage of the above mentioned character, embodying a body portion, and a cover member which may be readily removed therefrom, to exhibit the animals within the cage.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent in the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same,

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a toy circus cage, embodying my invention, with the cover member in place,

Figure 2 is a similar view, with the cover member removed, showing animals secured to the cage,

Figure 3 is a transverse section taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2,

Figure 4 is a side elevation of the circus cage, before the animals are applied thereto,

Figure 5 is a side elevation of one of the animals, showing a form of attaching means,

Figure 6 is a similar view of a different animal,

Figure 7 is a perspective view of the cover member,

Figure 8 is a side elevation of a different form of vehicle embodying the invention, and

Figure 9 is a side elevation of the cover member.

In the drawings wherein for the purpose of illustration are shown preferred embodiments of my invention, the numeral 10 designates a blank or sheet, which may be formed of cardboard, paper, sheet metal, or any suitable material. This sheet is preferably cut or stamped to form the body portion 11 of a circus cage, having wheels 12. At the top of the body portion 11 there is a central projection or dome 13. At the rear end of the body portion there is an upwardly extending element 14, simulating a flag, while the numeral 15 designates a seat. It is to be understood that the several elements are stamped from a single sheet.

The numeral 16 designates horses and 17 a driver, these elements being stamped from a single sheet. The driver may be placed upon the seat 15 and the horses placed in position in front of the cage, whereby the entire device will simulate the horse-drawn circus cage. The driver 17 may be formed integral with the harness of the horses or he may be formed integral with the seat 15, as desired.

In order that the device may further closely simulate the ordinary circus cage, I provide a cover member 18, Figs. 1 and 7, having a yoke 19, which is foldable longitudinally upon line 20. This yoke has a longitudinal slot 21, to receive the dome 13. The cover member 18 has an extension 22, adapted to cover the flag 14. The cover member 18 and the yoke 19 are stamped from a single sheet, such as cardboard, paper, sheet metal or the like. When the cover member is placed upon the body portion 11 of the cage, the dome 13 projects through the slot 21 of the yoke 19, which is then folded downwardly, the dome contacting with the end walls of the slot 24, whereby the cover member is securely held against longitudinal displacement.

As more clearly shown in Fig. 4, the body portion 11 of the cage has vertical lines 23 thereon, which may be produced by printing, painting or the like. These lines extend from the top to the bottom of the plain surface of the body portion 11, as shown. These lines simulate the iron bars of the cage. As shown in Fig. 2, the numeral 24 designates animals, appearing to be within the cage. I

prefer to form these animals separate, the same being made from sheets, cut into the desired shape. These animals may be cut from paper, cardboard, sheet metal or the like, each animal having printed or otherwise formed thereon, lines 23′, which are vertical, and equi-distantly spaced. The lines 23 are also vertical and equi-distantly spaced, and the lines 23 and 23′ are thereby adapted to register, when the animal 24 is placed upon the side of the body portion 11. By these means, the separate animals may be placed upon the body portion 11, and by virtue of the registration of the lines, simulating the bars, the animal will appear to be placed within the cage behind the bars. In Fig. 2, the animals are shown as sea lions. In Fig. 6, the animal 25 designates an animal cut from a sheet, and having the vertical bars 23′ thereon. This animal is illustrated as an elephant. The separate animals cut from the sheet, may be applied to the body portion 11, and permanently secured thereto by glue or paste, or the animal may be detachably secured to the body portion 11. In Fig. 5, I have shown an animal 27, cut from a sheet, and having the bars 23′ printed thereon. This animal is adapted to be detachably secured to the body portion 11, and for this purpose it is shown as provided with tongues 28, integral therewith, which tongues may be secured to the body 11 by glue or paste, or the tongues may be bent inwardly and the body 11 provided with short slits, to receive the tongues 28. The slits would preferably be made after the animal has been applied to the body portion 11, so that the bars 23′ would register with the bars 23. These slits may be readily made with a knife, at the proper different points, and if they are carefully made, when the animal is removed from the body portion 1, they would not be noticeable to any considerable extent. Any suitable means may be employed to detachably secure the animals to the body portion 11 of the cage.

In Figs. 8 and 9, I have shown a vehicle 29, cut or stamped from a sheet, such as paper, cardboard, sheet metal or the like. This vehicle is shaped and printed to simulate a wheeled cook wagon, used in a circus. The wagon has wheels 30 and stacks or pipes 32, projecting above the body portion of the wagon. The several elements are of course stamped from the same sheet.

The numeral 33 designates a cover member, having a yoke 34, foldable longitudinally upon lines 35, and having slots 36, receiving the pipes 32. The cover member 33 is placed upon the body portion of the cook wagon 29, to cover the same, and the extensions or pipes 32 project through the slots 36, thereby holding the cover against longitudinal displacement.

It is to be understood that the forms of my invention herein shown and described, are to be taken as preferred examples of the same, and that various changes in the shape, size, and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of my invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A substantially flat blank cut and marked to simulate one side of a vehicle, said blank having an extension at its upper end, and a cover member for said blank, said cover member embodying a substantially flat sheet adapted to contact with the major portion of the front face of the blank, said cover member having a yoke integral with its upper end and folded longitudinally thereon, said yoke having a slot to receive the extension whereby the cover member is held against longitudinal displacement when placed upon the blank.

2. A toy circus cage comprising a body portion formed from a sheet, said body portion having substantially vertical bars printed thereon and extending from the top to the bottom of the body portion, and an animal cut from a sheet and adapted to be applied to the body portion over said bars, said animal having vertical bars formed thereon and adapted for registration with the first named bars, whereby the animal may be placed in a selected position and it will appear that the animal is within the cage behind the bars.

3. A toy circus cage comprising a body portion formed from a sheet, said body portion having spaced lines thereon simulating the bars of a cage, and a plurality of animals adapted to be arranged upon the surface of the body portion, each animal being cut from a sheet and provided with spaced lines simulating the bars of the cage, the lines on each animal being adapted for registration with the lines on said body portion whereby it appears that the animal is behind the bars within the cage.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

LOUIS M. LATTA.