Feb. 9, 1926. 1,572,789

S. S. GRIFFIN

CHILD'S COASTER TOY

Filed Oct. 9, 1924 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

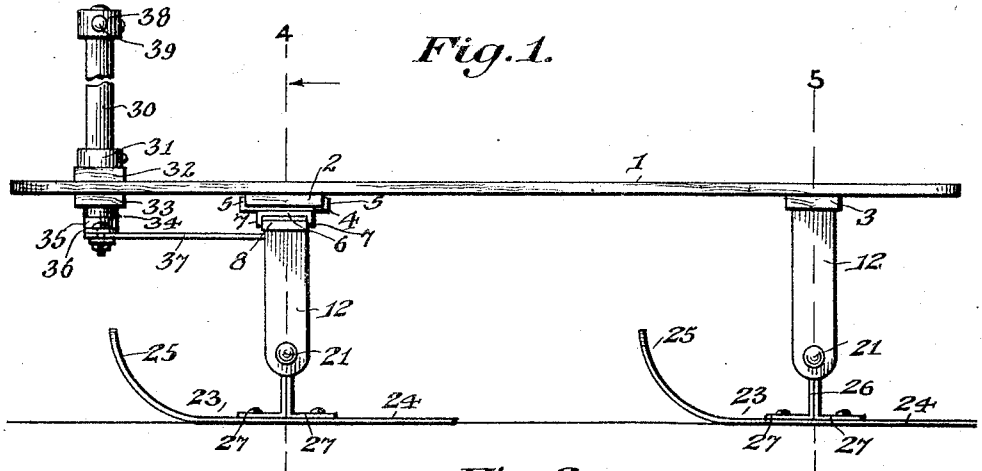


Fig. 2.

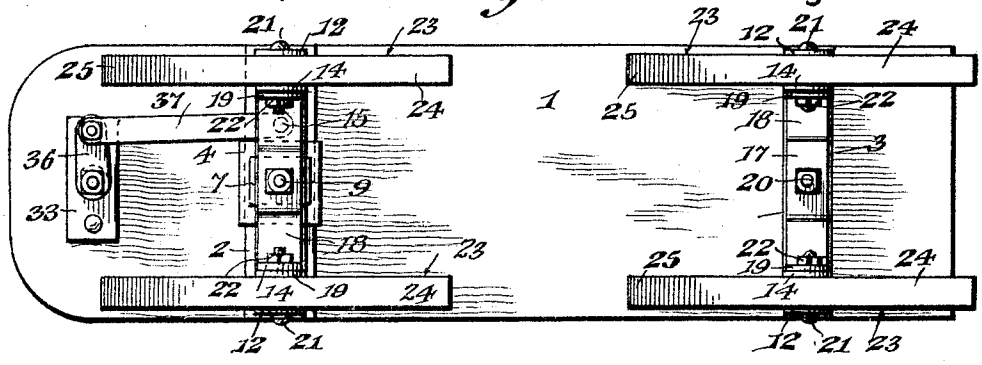
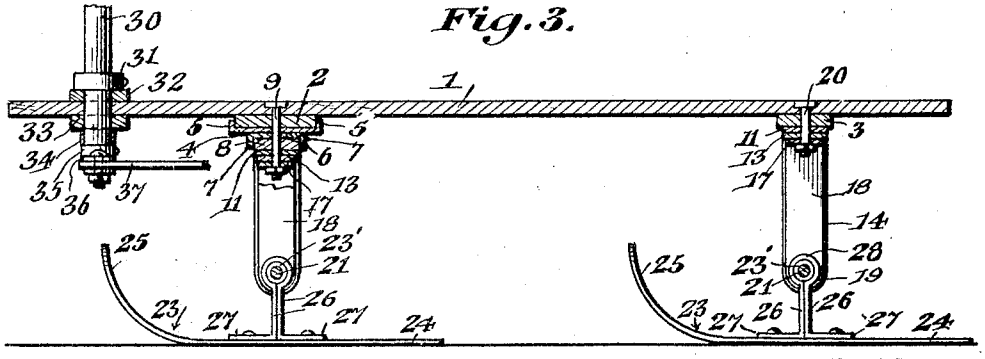


Fig. 3.



INVENTOR.

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Fig. 4.

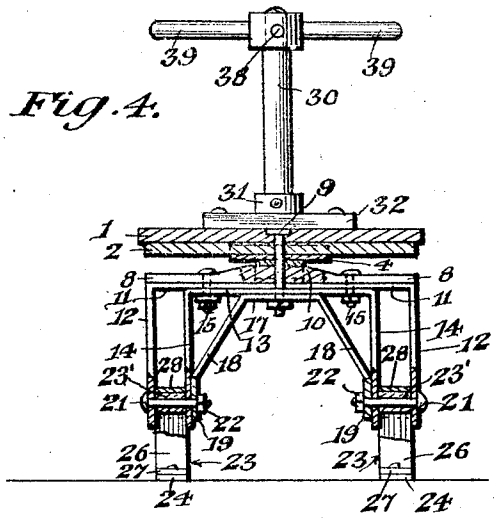


Fig. 5.

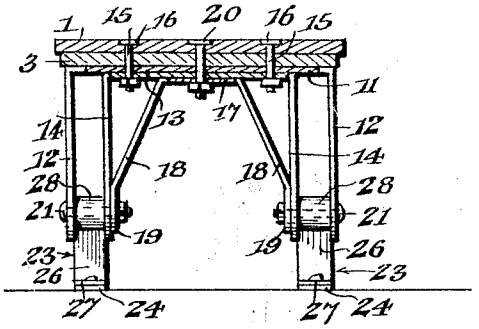


Fig. 6.

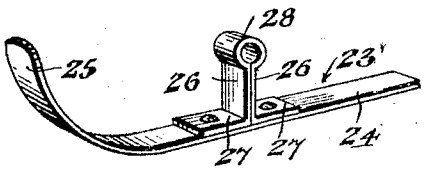


Fig. 7.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SIDNEY S. GRIFFIN, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

CHILD'S COASTER TOY.

Application filed October 9, 1924. Serial No. 742,691.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SIDNEY S. GRIFFIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Children's Coaster Toys, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a child's coaster toy and has for its primary object the provision, in a manner as hereinafter set forth, of a toy which may be equipped either with wheels or runners, either of which may be easily and quickly applied for use.

Another object of the invention is the provision, in a manner as hereinafter set forth, of a coaster toy adapted to be equipped with runners adapted to swing longitudinally of the toy to cause smoothness in riding over unequal surfaces.

Still another object of the invention is the provision in a manner as hereinafter set forth, of a coaster toy having an improved structure for supporting the traction surface engaging element, and also a new and novel means for steering the device.

The device embodying this invention comprises a platform having the front and rear transverse cleats each carrying at their outer ends a pair of spaced depending arms apertured at their lower ends and adapted to receive therebetween the hub of a wheel or runner, which hub is pivotally secured therebetween to allow the wheel to be easily revolved thereon and also to allow a runner to swing longitudinally of the platform when the device is traveling over uneven ground. A steering post is provided having a laterally extending arm at the lower end thereof beneath the platform, which arm is connected by a rearwardly extending link pivotally secured at its rear end to the front traction surface engaging element carrying structure which is pivotally connected to the platform.

A final object of the invention is the provision in a manner as hereinafter set forth, of a coaster toy adapted to be equipped either with wheels or runners and which is simple in structure, light in weight, strong, durable and inexpensive to manufacture.

The invention will be best understood from a consideration of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, with the understanding that the invention is not confined to any strict conformity with the showing of the drawings, but may be changed and modified so long as such changes and modifications mark no material departure from the salient features of the invention as expressed in the appended claim.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the toy embodying this invention, the same being shown as equipped with runners.

Figure 2 is a bottom plan view of the same.

Figure 3 is a central longitudinal section of the device.

Figure 4 is a transverse section taken upon the line 4—4 of Figure 1.

Figure 5 is a a transverse section taken upon the line 5—5 of Figure 1.

Figure 6 is a detail perspective view of one of the runner members disconnected from the structure, and

Figure 7 is a side elevation of the toy shown as equipped with wheels.

Referring now to the drawings in detail wherein like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views, there is indicated at 1 the body of the vehicle which, as shown, is of substantial length and width and may be constructed of wood or any other suitable strong material. Extending transversely of the underside of the body 1 adjacent the front and rear ends thereof, are bolsters 2 and 3, respectively, the bolster 2 being the front bolster and is, as shown, set further from the end of the body than the rear bolster 3.

Secured across the under face of the bolster 2 is the upper portion of the fifth wheel or wear plate 4, the sides of which are turned up as at 5 and secured against the sides of the bolster 2. Positioned below and bearing against the under side of the portion 4 is the lower portion 6 of the fifth wheel, the sides of which are turned down as at 7 to engage over the front and rear sides of the sand board 8. A king bolt 9 is passed through the sand board, the fifth wheel, the bolster and the body 1, as shown, the head 10 of the bolt being embedded in the top part of the body 1. The central portion of the sand board 8 is of greater thickness than the end portions, as indicated at 10, thus spacing the ends a substantial distance from the bolster 2 to prevent any possible contact

between the two members. The sand board 8 and the lower portion 6 of the fifth wheel 4 is adapted to pivot on the king bolt 9 in steering the vehicle.

Secured along and against the under face of the sand board 8 and of the bolster 3 is an inverted substantially U-shaped member comprising a cross portion 11 which is the same length as the sand board or bolster to which attached, and right angularly extending depending legs 12. Positioned within this U-shaped member is a second inner member having a transverse upper portion 13 and right angularly extending depending side legs 14, the lower ends of the legs 14 being in alignment with the lower ends of the legs 12 as shown in Figures 4 and 5. These legs are in alignment and spaced apart as shown and each has an aperture therethrough adjacent the lower end thereof. Securing bolts 15 extend through the superposed cross members 11 and 13 of the inner and outer U-shaped members and, at the rear of the vehicle these bolts extend through the bolster 3 and have their heads 16 embedded in the top 1 of the vehicle, whereas at the front portion the bolts extend only through the sand board 8.

An inverted substantially V-shaped brace member is positioned within the inner U-shaped member at the front and rear of the vehicle and this brace member comprises an upper transverse portion 17 which bears against the under side of the transverse portion 13 of the inner U-shaped member, downwardly and outwardly diverging brace arms 18 extending from the ends of the cross member 17 and vertical bearing pins 19 which are positioned against the legs 14 at their inner sides and adjacent the lower ends thereof. At the rear of the vehicle a main bolt 20 extends through the entire assembly as shown in Figure 5 to secure the parts together, whereas at the front part of the vehicle the lower end of the king bolt 9 serves to retain these members in position as shown in Figure 4.

Extending through the lower end of each of the legs 12 and 14 are stub axles 21 each having its inner end extending through the vertical portion 19 of the brace member and secured by a nut 22. Bearing sleeves or bushings 23 surround each of these stub shafts as shown and are encircled by the hub of the wheel or runner when the same is positioned between the legs 12 and 14 upon the shaft 21.

Carried by each pair of legs 12 and 14 is a runner member, indicated as a whole by the numeral 23 and this runner member comprises a substantially elongated flat ground engaging portion 24 having the forward end thereof upturned as indicated at 25. At the central portion of each runner there is positioned a standard comprising a pair of abutting flap members 26 each having its lower end outturned as at 27 to provide a foot which is securely riveted to the runner, and at their upper ends merging into a hub 28, which hub is positioned between the aforesaid legs 12 and 14 enclosing the bearing 23 which in turn is supported and retained in position by means of the stub axle 21.

If it is desired to use wheels upon the coaster instead of runners, the stub axle 21 may be removed by moving the nut 22 and sliding the axle from the bearing 23 whereupon the hub 28 will be removed from between the legs 12 and 14 and a wheel, indicated at 29 in Figure 7, may be inserted between the legs and pivotally secured in position by means of the stub axle 21.

Extending through the body 1 of the vehicle upon the longitudinal center thereof and between the forward bolster 2 and the front end of the vehicle, is a steering post 30, having secured thereabout a collar 31 which bears upon a bearing block 32 mounted upon the upper side of the body 1, and a similar bearing block 33 is positioned upon the under side of the body through which the lower portion of the post extends. A collar 34 surrounds the lower portion of the post 30 and bears against the under side of the bearing block 33. Secured to the terminal lower end of the post 30 is a cap 35 which carries a laterally extending arm 36, the outer end of which arm is connected by means of a link connecting member 37 to the sand bar 8. The upper end of the steering rod 30 has a collar 38 secured thereabout which collar has extending at diametrically opposite points a steering arm 39. It will be noted that the rear end of the link 37 is pivotally secured to the sand bar midway between the king pin 9 and the outer end thereof, thus when the steering arms 39 are revolved to revolve the steering post 30, the arm 36 will have its outer end swung forwardly or rearwardly and the lever 37 will be moved therewith to swing the sand bar and thus turn the front runner to guide the vehicle in any desired direction.

Owing to the peculiar manner in which the runners are pivoted between the arms 12 and 14, the device will run smoothly over rough places, because the runners can swing longitudinally of the device, thus allowing them to follow the contour of the traction surface at all times.

Having thus described my invention what I claim is:

In a toy coaster, a body board, transversely extending front and rear bolster members upon the under side thereof, a sand board pivotally secured beneath said front bolster, an outer inverted substantially U-shaped member secured longitudinally beneath said rear bolster and said sand board, an inverted substantially U-shaped inner

member secured within each of said outer members, the adjacent legs of said members being in spaced parallel relation, an inverted substantially V-shaped brace member within each of said inner U-shaped members, a stub axle extending through the lower ends of said spaced legs and one leg of an adjacent brace member, and a runner member having a hub adapted to be positioned between said legs and traversed by said axle, to be pivotally secured to swing, at will, longitudinally of the vehicle.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature hereto.

SIDNEY S. GRIFFIN.