R. C. HARGREAVES.

TOY.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 2, 1920.

1,394,008. **Patented Oct. 18, 1921.**

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

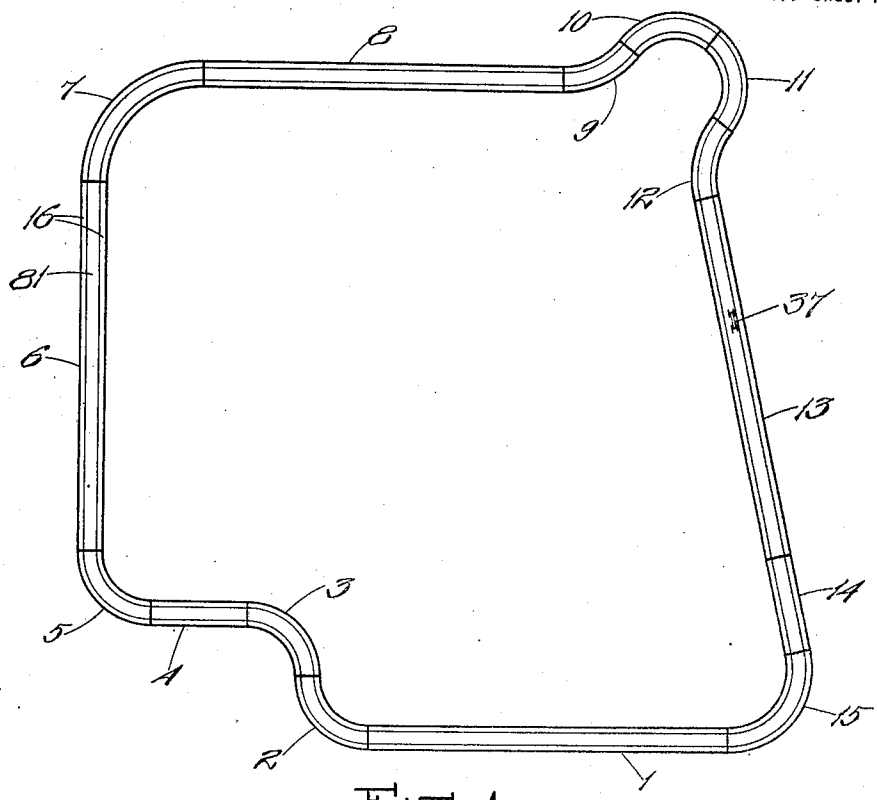
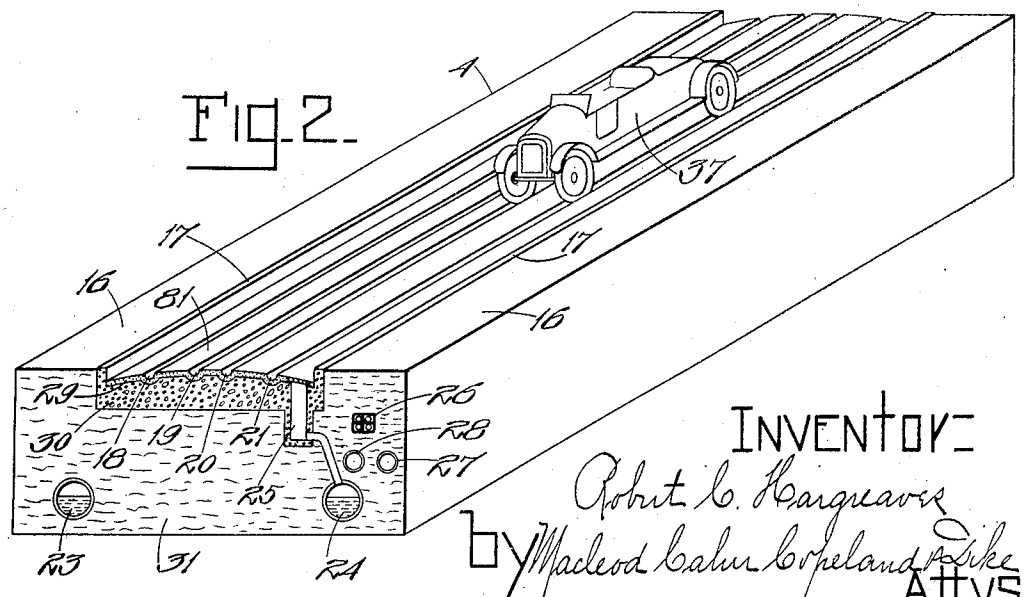


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.



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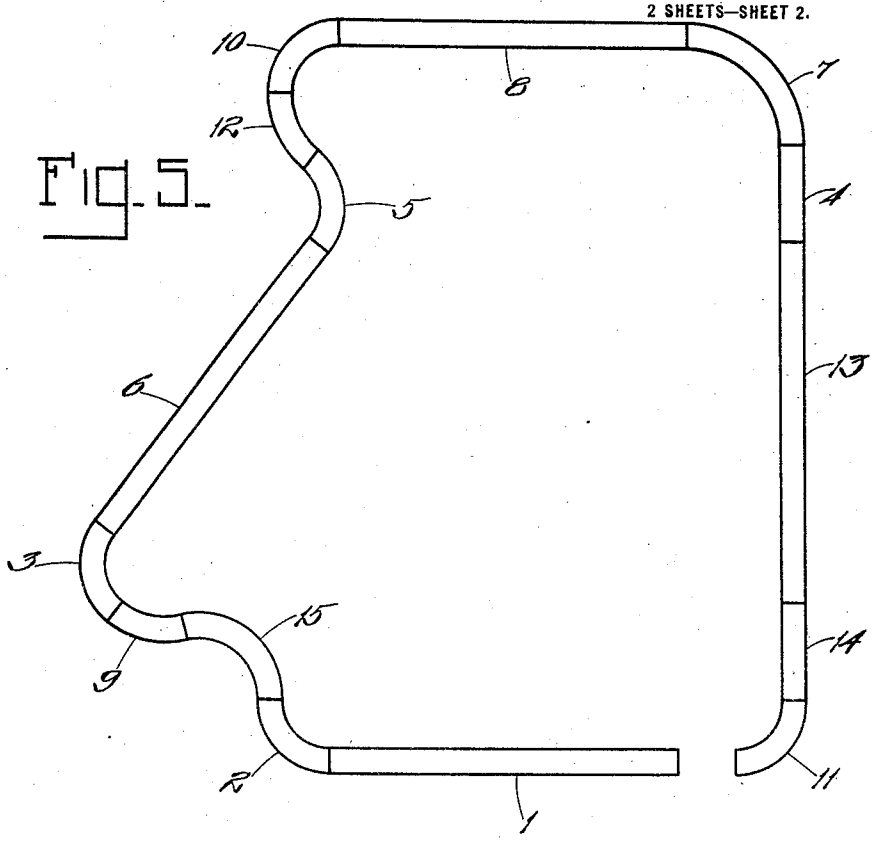


Fig. 5.

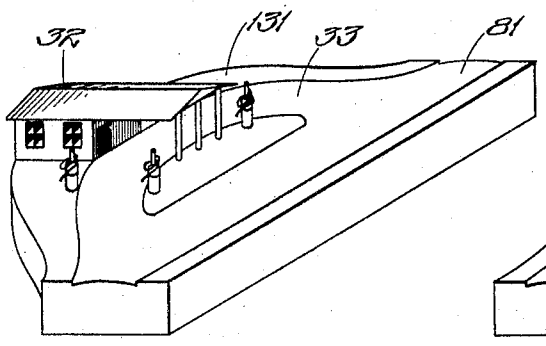


Fig. 3.

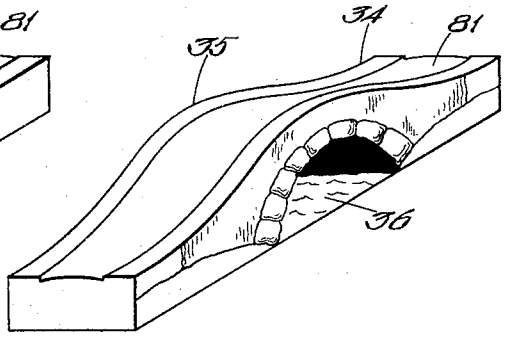


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT C. HARGREAVES, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-THIRD TO ROY D. CHAPIN AND ONE-THIRD TO GUIDO G. BEHN, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

TOY.

1,394,008. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 18, 1921.

Application filed December 2, 1920. Serial No. 427,885.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT C. HARGREAVES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Detroit, county of Wayne, State of Michigan, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Toys, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention has for its object a toy particularly adapted to familiarize children with and interest them in the economic development of highway transport. It aims to stimulate their interest and create a broader knowledge of the purposes which highway transport can fulfil in strengthening and developing our national life. The toy embodying my invention comprises a toy vehicle and a series of sections or blocks which when joined together produce a modern highway. Some sections are straight, others are curved, and others again provide for road intersections. When placed end to end in the form of a highway, miniature vehicles may be operated over them. These vehicles in the form of automobiles, motor trucks, tractors and trailers, are guided in their travel by continuous grooves or rails or both, provided in the sections which make up the toy. Certain sections are made up to include objects commonly found adjacent or forming part of highways, such, for instance, as the intersection of two roads, a filling station for gasolene, a bridge over a stream or railroad track, an underpass bridge or the like. The ends of each section are constructed to simulate the under surface construction of a highway. This is conveniently accomplished by attaching to the ends of the sections colored lithographs or the like, representing the sewers, water mains, electric and telephone wire conduits, catch basins, layers of stone, etc., which are commonly found beneath a well-constructed highway. The sections can be made up in great variety and by changing their relative positions, the appearance of the route can be completely changed.

The invention provides a toy having considerable educational value, and one with which a child will amuse itself for long periods, particularly because it assists the child to imagine a journey along a route suggested by the toy and to enjoy in imagination many incidents of such a journey.

Additional sections suggestive of natural features or of wayside incidents may be provided for small additional expense so that the child may have his toy gradually developed and elaborated.

The invention will be fully understood from the following description when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, and the novel features thereof will be pointed out and clearly defined in the claims at the close of this specification.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a layout of a route made up of fifteen sections embodying my invention and shows a miniature motor vehicle in operation on the highway.

Figs. 2, 3 and 4 are views in perspective of representative sections, Fig. 2 showing a motor vehicle on the roadway.

Fig. 5 shows the fifteen sections shown in Fig. 1 rearranged to present a route of altogether different appearance.

Referring now to the drawings, in Fig. 1 is shown a toy embodying my invention composed of fifteen sections numbered consecutively from 1 to 15; a typical straight section designated 4 is shown in Fig. 2. At 37 is shown a miniature motor vehicle in operation on the track formed by the sections. The section shown in Fig. 2 has its top surface shaped to simulate the cross-sectional contour of a highway, a sidewalk 16, a curbstone 17, and road surface 81 being provided. In the road surfaces are formed tracks 18, 19 and 20, 21 which, in the toy shown in the drawings, are in the form of grooves or tracks to receive the wheels of a toy automobile or other toy vehicle. On the ends of each section are placed simulations of the undersurface structures common to streets and highways. In Fig. 2, there are shown sewers 23 and 24, a catch basin 25, electric wire conduit 26, and water and gas mains 27 and 28. The materials of which the roadway are constructed are also shown in this way. In Fig. 2, the roadway is of concrete 29, while the foundation is shown at 30 and the soil at 31. This is all conveniently accomplished by pasting suitable pictures on the ends of the sections. It will be understood that the pictures on the ends of all the sections will not necessarily be uniform since by having a variety, the child may learn about different types of roads.

In Fig. 3 is shown a much more elaborate

section 131, illustrating a roadside gasolene supply or filling station 32 with a driveway 33 leading to it. In Fig. 4 is shown a section 34 illustrating a bridge 35 over a stream 36 and showing that there may be a difference in the grade or elevation of the roadway. Other sections may be made according to the scenes or incidents which it may be desired to represent to the child's imagination.

The sections may be arranged in different order, either in an endless path or otherwise as is desired. Thus in Fig. 5, I have shown the sections which are shown in Fig. 1 rearranged to produce a route of altogether different appearance.

What I claim is,—

1. A toy composed of a series of sections constructed to simulate the appearance of a highway, the ends of the sections being covered with paper printed to illustrate the cross-sectional structure of a highway, and the surface being formed into a track for the passage of a toy vehicle.

2. A toy composed of a series of sections constructed to simulate the appearance of a highway, some of said sections being straight and others being curved, each of said sections having its ends adapted to abut against the end of any other section to form a continuation of said highway and having the top surface formed into a track for the passage of a toy vehicle, and the ends of the sections covered with paper printed to simulate the cross-section of the undersurface construction of a highway.

3. A toy composed of a miniature vehicle and a series of sections constructed to simulate the appearance of a highway and having tracks for said vehicle, the ends of the sections simulating a section of the undersurface construction of a highway.

4. A toy which includes a miniature motor vehicle and a series of sections constructed to simulate the appearance of a highway and having tracks to guide said miniature motor vehicle, said tracks being disposed longitudinally of said sections, and said sections being adapted to abut end to end to form a continuation of said highway, some of the sections being constructed to include models of objects common to highways.

5. A toy composed of a series of sections constructed to simulate a highway and having the top surface formed into a track for the passage of a toy vehicle, said tracks being disposed longitudinally of said sections, and said sections being adapted to abut end to end to form a continuation of said highway, some of the sections being constructed to simulate the structures found along a highway.

6. A toy composed of a miniature vehicle and a series of elongated sections constructed to simulate the appearance of a highway and having tracks to guide said vehicle, said tracks being disposed longitudinally of said sections, and said sections being adapted to abut end to end to form a continuation of said highway.

7. A toy composed of a miniature vehicle and a series of sections constructed to simulate the appearance of a highway and having tracks to guide said vehicle along said highway, each of said sections being adapted to abut against any other section to form a continuation of said highway.

8. A toy composed of a miniature vehicle and a series of sections each constructed to simulate the appearance of a portion of a highway and adapted to be assembled to form a continuous highway, some of said sections being straight and others being curved, and each of said sections having tracks to guide said vehicle along said highway.

9. A toy composed of a miniature vehicle and a series of elongated sections each constructed to simulate the appearance of a portion of a highway and having tracks to guide said vehicle along said highway, said tracks being disposed longitudinally of said sections, said sections being adapted to abut end to end to form a continuous highway, some of said sections being straight and others being curved.

10. A toy composed of a miniature vehicle and a series of elongated sections constructed to simulate the appearance of a highway and having tracks to guide said vehicle, said tracks being disposed longitudinally of said sections, said sections being adapted to abut end to end to form a continuation of said highway, and the ends of the sections simulating sections of the undersurface construction of said highway.

11. A toy composed of a miniature vehicle and a series of sections each constructed to simulate the appearance of a portion of a highway and adapted to be assembled to form a continuous highway, some of said sections being straight and others being curved, each of said sections having tracks to guide said vehicle along said highway, and the ends of said sections simulating sections of the undersurface construction of said highway.

12. A toy composed of a miniature vehicle and a series of elongated sections constructed to simulate the appearance of a highway and having tracks to guide said vehicle along said highway, said tracks being disposed longitudinally of said sections, and each of said sections having its ends adapted to abut against the end of any other section to form a continuation of said highway.

13. A toy composed of a miniature vehicle and a series of sections each constructed to simulate the appearance of a portion of a highway and having tracks to guide said

vehicle along said highway, some of said sections being straight and others being curved, and each of said sections being adapted to abut against any other section to form a continuation of said highway.

14. A toy composed of a miniature vehicle and a series of elongated sections each constructed to simulate the appearance of a portion of a highway and having longitudinally disposed tracks to guide said vehicle along said highway, each of said sections having its ends adapted to abut against the end of any other section to form a continuation of said highway, some of said sections being straight and others being curved.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ROBERT C. HARGREAVES.