March 17, 1925. 1,530,165

L. H. FOWLER

TOY VEHICLE

Filed Dec. 12, 1922 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

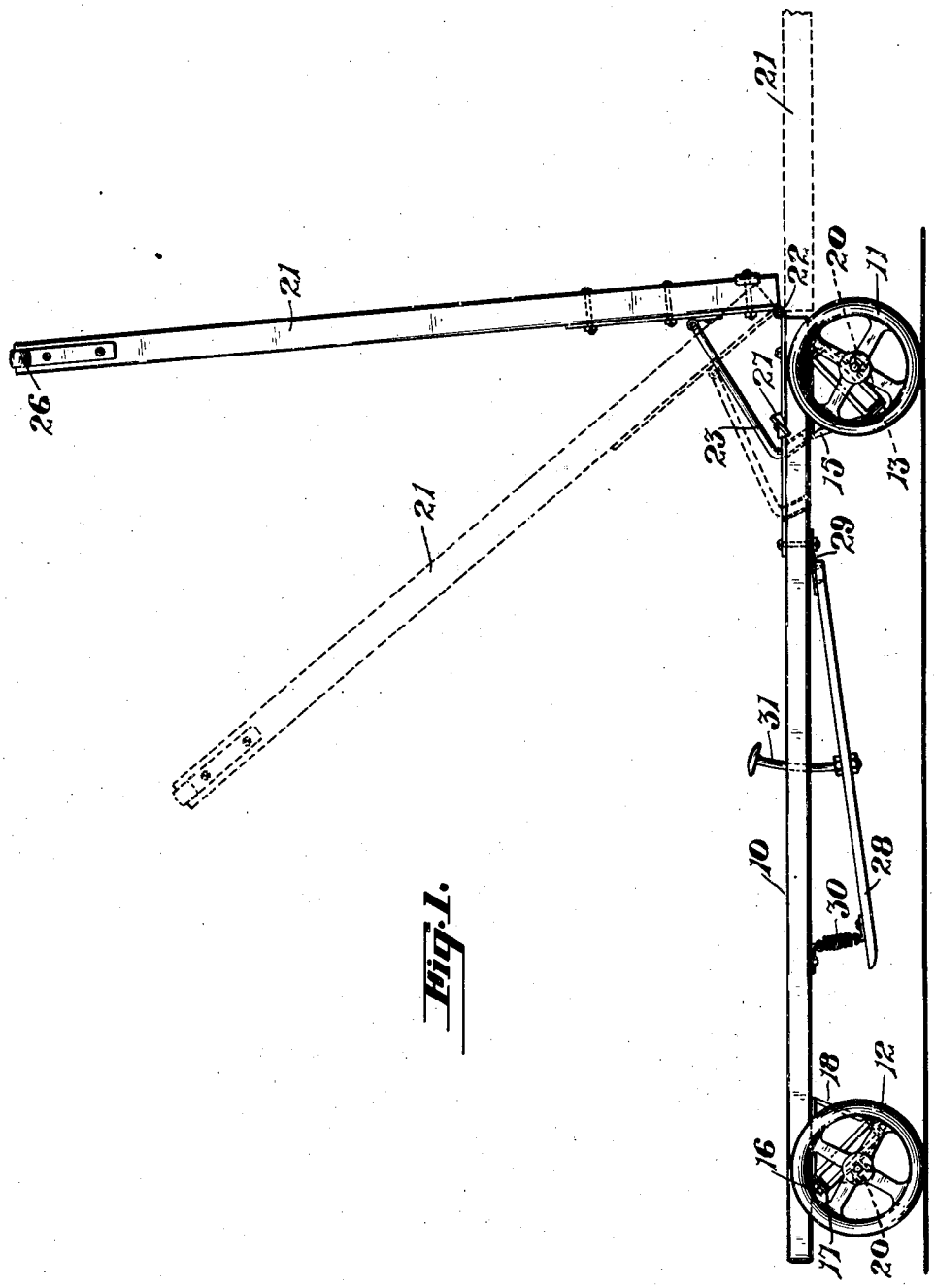


Fig. 1.

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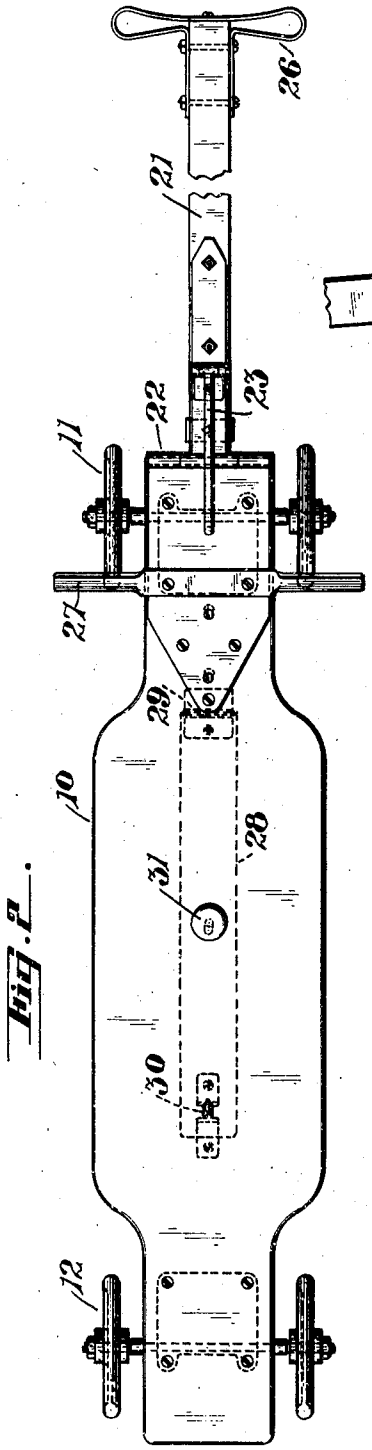


Fig. 2.

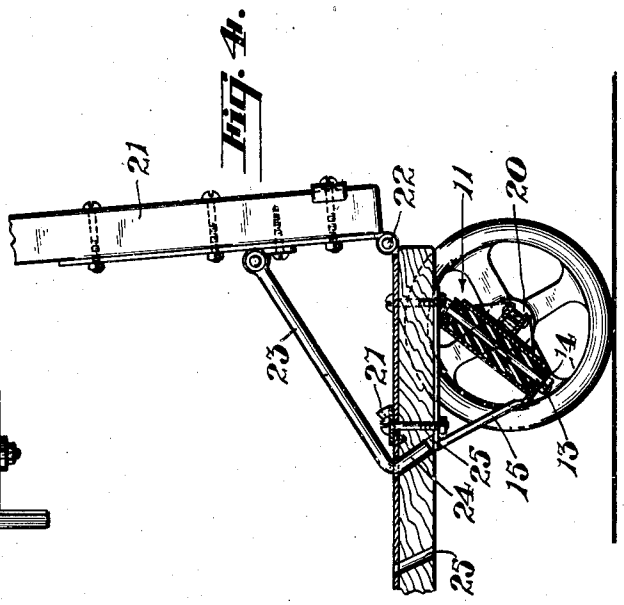


Fig. 4.

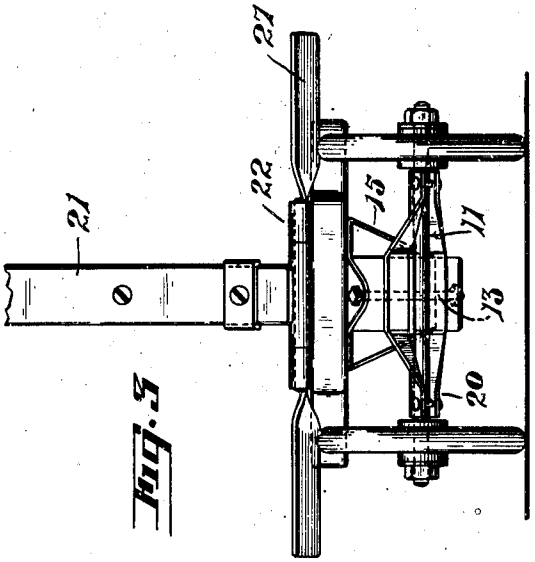


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEWIS H. FOWLER, OF VALLEJO, CALIFORNIA.

TOY VEHICLE.

Application filed December 12, 1922. Serial No. 606,406.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEWIS H. FOWLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Vallejo, county of Solano, and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Toy Vehicles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a toy vehicle of the type used by children for coasting, etc.

It is the principal object of the invention to simplify and improve the construction and operation of toy vehicles of this character and to adapt the vehicle to a number of different uses.

In general, the vehicle comprises a low body or platform mounted at each end on a truck of the type used in roller skates, that is to say, one having an inclined king bolt connecting the truck to the body so that when the body is tilted to one side or the other the direction of movement of the truck will be changed accordingly. The body is fitted with a handle or tongue, which is movable into three different positions, namely, rearwardly inclined, vertically and forwardly inclined, there being latching means to hold the handle in either of the two first-named positions. When the handle is rearwardly inclined it permits the child to ride the vehicle when in sitting position, and, when the handle is vertically positioned, it permits the child to use the vehicle in standing position. When the handle is thrown forwardly it may be used as a draft tongue to pull the vehicle.

One form which my invention may assume is exemplified in the following description and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Fig. 1 shows a side elevation of a toy vehicle embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 shows a plan view of the same.

Fig. 3 is a front elevation.

Fig. 4 is a vertical, sectional view taken through the front portion of the vehicle.

Referring in detail to the accompanying drawings, I show a body or platform 10 mounted at the front on a pair of roller skate trucks 11, and at the rear upon a pair of roller skate trucks 12. The front trucks are connected to the body by means of a forwardly and upwardly inclined king bolt 13 passing through a bearing 14, which bearing is fastened to the body by means of brackets 15.

The rear trucks are connected to the body by means of a rearwardly and upwardly inclined king bolt 16 extending through a bearing 17 connected to the body by brackets 18. In each case the king bolt is connected to the axle of the truck by brackets 20, said brackets in the case of the front trucks extending rearwardly and in the case of the rear trucks extending forwardly.

The front end of the body is fitted with a handle or tongue 21 hinged to the body at 22 and having movement throughout an arc of approximately 180°. This tongue carries a latch 23 pivotally connected thereto and having a hook 24 which is adapted to engage with either one of two of the openings 25 formed in the body. When this hook is in the rear opening 25 the handle is supported in a rearwardly and upwardly inclined position, and when the latch is in the forward opening the handle is supported in approximately vertical position. By disengaging the latch entirely the handle may be swung forwardly and serve as a tongue for pulling the vehicle. This handle or tongue is preferably fitted with a cross bar 26 at its outer end.

Upon the body near the front thereof is a cross bar 27 forming a rest for the feet of the operator. In operation, a child may place the handle in a rearwardly and upwardly inclined position, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, and ride the vehicle by seating himself thereon and placing his feet upon the foot rest 27, grasping the handle with his hands for the purpose of bracing himself and retaining his balance upon the vehicle. It will be understood that the vehicle is steered by the operator throwing his weight towards one side or the other, which will cause the front truck wheels to turn in one direction and the rear truck wheels to turn in the opposite direction, owing to the oppositely inclined king bolts.

If desired, the child may operate the vehicle by placing one foot upon the body or platform and using the other foot to propel the vehicle, in which case the handle

is set in the full line position shown in Fig. 1. At this time the handle becomes useful to steady the operator and to permit him to tilt the body sidewise as is necessary for steering.

Another use of the handle or tongue is that of a draft bar or tongue.

Preferably I provide the vehicle with a brake consisting of a bar or shoe 28 connected to the bottom of the platform or body by a hinge 29 and normally held above the ground by means of a spring 30. A rod or arm 31 extends up through the body of the vehicle. The operator, by placing his foot upon this rod or bar 31, can depress the brake shoe and cause it to engage the ground, thus retarding the progress of the vehicle.

Various changes in the construction and arrangement of the several parts herein shown and described my be employed without departing from the spirit of my invention as disclosed in the appended claim.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

A toy vehicle comprising a body, front- and rear-wheeled trucks upon which the body is mounted, a handle hinged to the body at the forward end thereof and adapted to swing longitudinally of the body throughout an arc of substantially one hundred and eighty (180°) degrees, a latch member pivotally connected at one end to the handle, a hook formed on the free end of said latch member, said body member having openings formed therein at spaced distances apart longitudinally thereof, said openings being adapted to receive said hook whereby to rigidly maintain the handle in various positions of adjustment.

LEWIS H. FOWLER.