Dec. 13, 1932. H. F. SHEPHERD 1,890,755

SCOOTER

Filed April 22, 1932

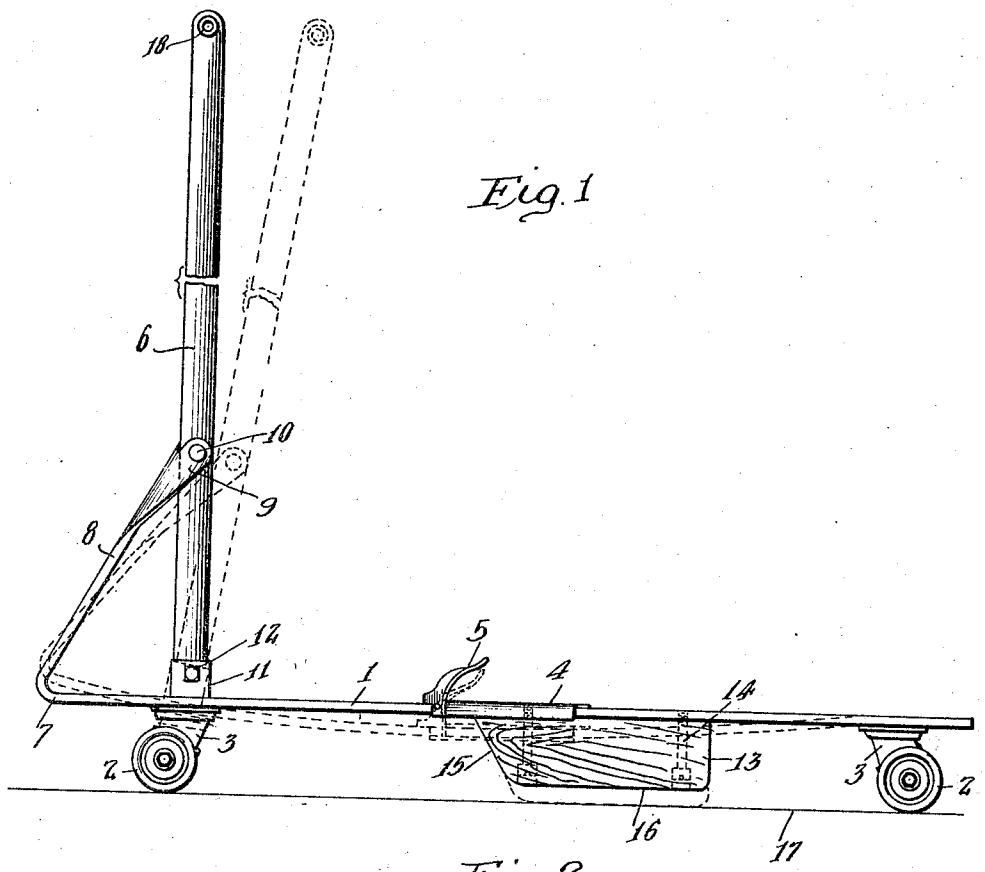


Fig. 1

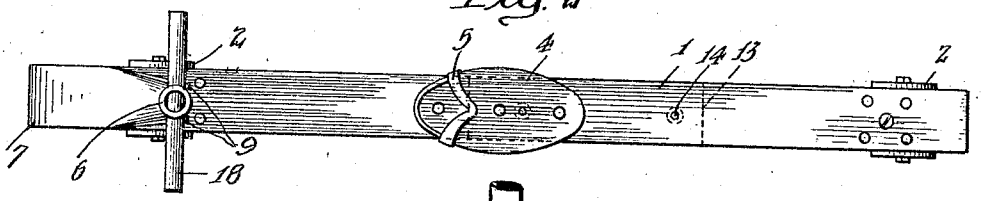


Fig. 2

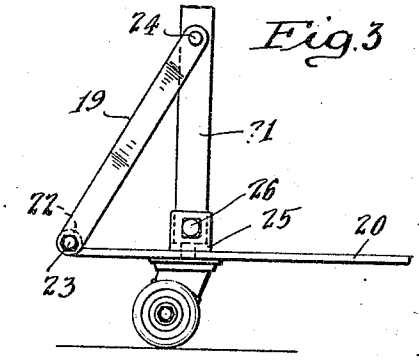


Fig. 3

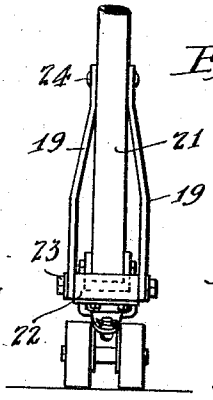


Fig. 4

Inventor

Howard F. Shepherd

By Lyon & Lyon

Attorneys

Patented Dec. 13, 1932 1,890,755

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

HOWARD F. SHEPHERD, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

SCOOTER

Application filed April 22, 1932. Serial No. 606,859.

This invention relates to a scooter. Scooters are popular with children as a toy vehicle, and are usually constructed with an elongated body supported on wheels upon which the child stands with one foot, using the other foot to propel himself along the pavement. The scooter is usually provided with a handle bar which is held by the child in keeping his equilibrium.

The general object of this invention is to produce a scooter of simple construction, which will have means for applying a braking force at the will of the child, merely by exerting a force upon the handle-bar.

A further object of the invention is to improve the general construction of scooters with the idea of rendering the same inexpensive and durable.

Further objects of the invention will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists of novel parts and combinations of parts to be described hereinafter, all of which contribute to produce an efficient scooter.

A preferred embodiment of the invention is described in the following specification, while the broad scope of the invention is pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawing—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a scooter embodying my invention, and indicating in dotted lines the manner in which the scooter is controlled to apply the brake; in this view, the post of the handle-bar is indicated broken away;

Figure 2 is a plan of the scooter illustrated in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a side elevation of the forward end of the scooter of my invention, and illustrating another embodiment of the same; in this view, the upper portion of the post is broken away; and

Figure 4 is a front elevation of the forward end of the scooter illustrated in Figure 3.

Before proceeding to a more detailed description of the invention, it should be noted that in accordance with my invention, I construct the body of the scooter of a resilient bar, or flat spring, which is mounted on wheels, and at the forward end of which the post is attached that carries the handle-bar. According to my invention, I connect the post with the spring bar, so that by exerting a force on the post, the spring bar can be sprung in such a way as to apply the brake to the pavement.

Referring more particularly to the parts, and, especially to Figures 1 and 2, 1 indicates the body of a scooter, which is in the form of a flat bar, preferably made of spring steel, said bar being supported near its front and rear ends on rollers 2 mounted in suitable brackets 3 that are secured to the under side of the body. At about mid-way between the rollers, the upper side of the body is provided with a foot rest 4, the forward end of which is provided with an upwardly projecting "cage" 5 which receives the toe of the child's shoe to give the child a sure footing on the scooter.

At the forward end of the scooter, and preferably over the forward wheel bracket 3, I provide a post 6, which may be secured in any suitable manner to the spring bar 1. However, this connection is preferably such as will cooperate in imparting a flexing force to the bar 1. In order to produce an inexpensive and durable construction, which will function as described, I prefer to provide the bar 1 with a forward extension 7, the forward end of which is bent upwardly to form an inclined brace 8. At its upper end, this brace is split and bent so as to form two forks 9 that lie on opposite sides of the post 6. These forks are attached to the post by a bolt or rivet 10, which passes through them and through the post. The post 6 is preferably formed of inexpensive tubing, the lower end of which is secured to a forked bracket 11 by a through bolt 12. This bracket 11 is rigidly secured to the bar 1. In the present instance it is welded.

On the under side of the bar 1, and preferably between the wheels 2, I secure a shoe 13, which is preferably in the form of a wooden block secured by bolts 14, and the forward end of this block is preferably formed with an inclined face 15 which extends forwardly in an upward direction. The spring bar 1 is sufficiently strong to sup-

port the weight of the child's body without flexing sufficiently to bring the lower face 16 of the brake shoe in contact with the pavement indicated by the line 17.

However, when a child is standing on the scooter, it will be slightly flexed downwardly and whenever it is desired to apply the brake, the child pulls backwardly on the handle-bar 18 carried at the upper end of the post. This will pull the post 6 back, as indicated by the dotted lines in Figure 1. In doing this, considerable tension is developed in the brace 8 which pulls up the forward end of the extension 7, thereby causing a depression of the middle portion of the body, which will bring the brake shoe in contact with the pavement.

In the embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figures 3 and 4, the brace 19 that connects the forward end of the spring bar 20 to the post 21 is formed of two links which are attached to an eye 22 formed at the forward end of the spring bar 20 by means of a through bolt 23. The upper ends of the links that form the brace 19 are attached to the post 21 by a through bolt or rivet 24. The lower end of the post 21 may be attached in a bracket 25 on the upper side of the spring bar 20 by means of a through bolt 26.

In either of the embodiments of the scooter described above, it will be evident that the child can readily apply the brake at will to stop the scooter or reduce its speed.

The bolts 14 that secure the brake block 13 are preferably counter-sunk so as to allow for considerable wearing away of the braking surface on the under side of the block. When the block wears away considerably, a new block can be attached in place.

It is understood that the embodiment of the invention described herein is only one of the many embodiments this invention may take, and I do not wish to be limited in the practice of my invention, nor in my claims, to the particular embodiment set forth.

What I claim is:

1. In a child's scooter to run on a pavement, the combination of a body in the form of a resilient bar, wheels for supporting the same, a brake attached to said bar, a post attached to said body and extending upwardly to be seized by the child riding on the scooter, and means connecting the post with said body for flexing the body to apply the brake to the pavement.

2. In a child's scooter to run on a pavement, the combination of a body in the form of a resilient bar, wheels for supporting the same, a foot plate mounted on the body between the wheels, a brake attached to the body between the wheels, a post attached to said body and extending upwardly therefrom, and means connecting the post with said body for flexing the body downwardly between the wheels to apply the brake to the pavement.

3. In a child's scooter to run on a pavement, the combination of a body in the form of a flat spring bar, wheels for supporting the same, a post attached to said body forwardly thereof, said body having an extension projecting forwardly beyond the post with means for connecting the same to the post, so that when the post is pulled rearwardly the forward end of the spring bar will be pulled upwardly and the spring bar between the wheels will be depressed, and a brake attached to the spring bar between the wheels to engage the pavement, whereby when the spring bar is depressed the brake is applied.

4. In a child's scooter to run on a pavement, the combination of a body in the form of a flat spring bar, wheels for supporting the same, a post attached to said body forwardly thereof, said bar having an extension forward of the post with an upwardly turned brace connected with the post and operating when the post is pulled rearwardly to pull said extension upwardly and depress the spring bar between the wheels, and a brake attached to the body between the wheels for engaging the pavement, whereby when the spring bar is depressed the brake is applied.

Signed at Los Angeles, California, this 13th day of April, 1932.

HOWARD F. SHEPHERD.