Dec. 19, 1950 R. H. FEERO 2,534,904

KNEE SADDLE CONSTRUCTION

Filed April 13, 1949

Fig. 1.

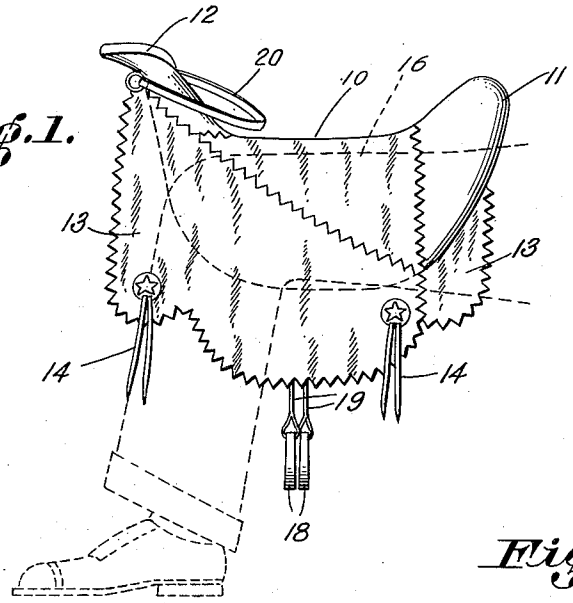


Fig. 3.

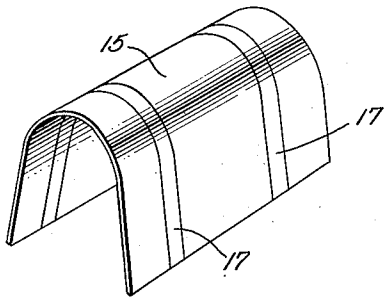
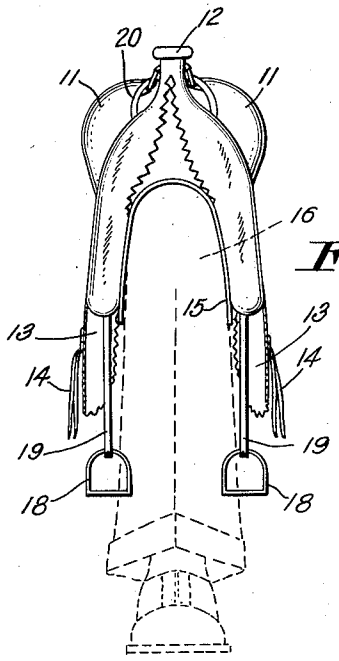


Fig. 2.



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KNEE SADDLE CONSTRUCTION

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1 Claim. (Cl. 272—1)

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This invention relates to toy saddles, and more particularly to a novel saddle shaped to fit on an adult's knee and thigh for use in exercising and entertaining small children.

For generations, adults have amused children by having the child sit astride of the adult's knee and thigh, and then moving the knee up and down to bounce the child.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a knee and thigh saddle upon which a small child may comfortably sit and which may be gripped by the child's knees and/or hands for support while the child is being bounced up and down.

It is another object of this invention to provide a saddle which is shaped to comfortably fit the adult knee and thigh securely without turning thereon.

It is another object of this invention to provide a knee-fitting saddle which simulates the saddles used by horseback riders.

It is a further object of this invention to provide a knee-fitting saddle which may have stirrups and a horn or pommel to assist a child in mounting himself to the saddle.

It is a still further object of this invention to provide a knee saddle with which a child may simulate riding on a conventional horse saddle, or on a duck, goose, chicken, elephant or other animal.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will be readily apparent to those skilled in the toy art from the following description of a preferred embodiment of the invention illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a knee-fitting horse-type saddle, an adult's knee and thigh being indicated in dotted lines,

Figure 2 is a front elevational view partly cutaway of the saddle shown in Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the knee and thigh engaging portion of the saddle shown in Figures 1 and 2.

The saddle illustrated includes a saddle tree 10 having a cantle 11 and a rigid horn or pommel 12. The saddle tree 10 may be shaped from semi-rigid papier mâché supported on a wire framework and may be covered with leather or imitation leather. Suitable saddle skirts 13 may be attached to the saddle tree 10 and may be provided with saddle strings 14 and/or other ornamentation. The underside of the saddle tree 10 is secured to a saddle pad 15, illustrated in Figure 3. The saddle pad 15 may be formed of sheet plastic material of semi-circular tubular

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shape to fit the normal adult knee and thigh indicated in dotted lines 16 in Figures 1 and 2. The saddle pad 15 may be provided with one or more spring metal clips 17 secured to or embedded in the plastic material to cause the pad 15 and the saddle secured thereto to grip the thigh without the use of girth or cinch straps. Suitable stirrups 18 may be provided and are supported by stirrups straps 19 secured to the saddle tree 10 or preferably to the saddle pad 15. The straps 19 may be of adjustable length if desired. A simulated rein 20 may be secured to the underside of the horn 12.

The material from which the saddle and saddle pad are constructed should be sufficiently pliable to permit a comfortable fit on adult knees and thighs. The provision of spring metal clips 17 serves to secure the saddle with a snug fit in proper position without discomfort to the user. The saddle covering and saddle skirts 14 may be of leather, simulated leather, fabric, sheet or molded plastic, or the like, and conventional ornamentation including strings, bells, embossing, or the like may be provided. The saddle tree 10 may have the cantle and horn portions shaped to simulate various animals such as a duck, goose, chicken, elephant, camel, or other animal. In such case, the ornamentation provided may simulate feathers, fur, or other animal surfaces.

In use of the saddle, an adult, seated in a chair or the like, places the saddle on his or her knee and thigh, in a comfortable position. The child then mounts and sits astride the saddle with feet in the stirrups and grasps the reins or saddle horn while the adult bounces his knee up and down.

The saddle construction described and illustrated will withstand long hard usage and rough handling without being damaged. The fit of the saddle and saddle pad to the user's knee and thigh is such as to provide minimum discomfort. Numerious modifications and changes in minor details, proportions and design of the construction illustrated will be readily apparent to those skilled in the manufacture of toys and this invention includes all such modifications coming within the scope of the appended claim.

I claim:

A child's simulated saddle, for use on a person's knee and thigh, comprising in combination, a semi-rigid saddle tree having an upwardly-projecting rigid pommel at its forward end and having an upwardly-curved rigid cantle-like portion at its rearward end, a saddle pad secured to and within said saddle tree, said saddle pad being

of sheet material having a semi-cylindrical lower surface adapted to engage and rest on an adult knee and thigh, a resilient U-shaped clip secured to said pad to engage and grip the sides of the thigh, ornamental covering material extending over and secured to said saddle tree and hanging downward on each side of saddle tree below the lower edges of said saddle tree and saddle pad, and stirrups suspended below the lower edges of said covering material and supported by said saddle tree.

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The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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