June 1, 1926. 1,586,608

G. W. CARVER

WHEELED TOY

Original Filed Nov. 2, 1922

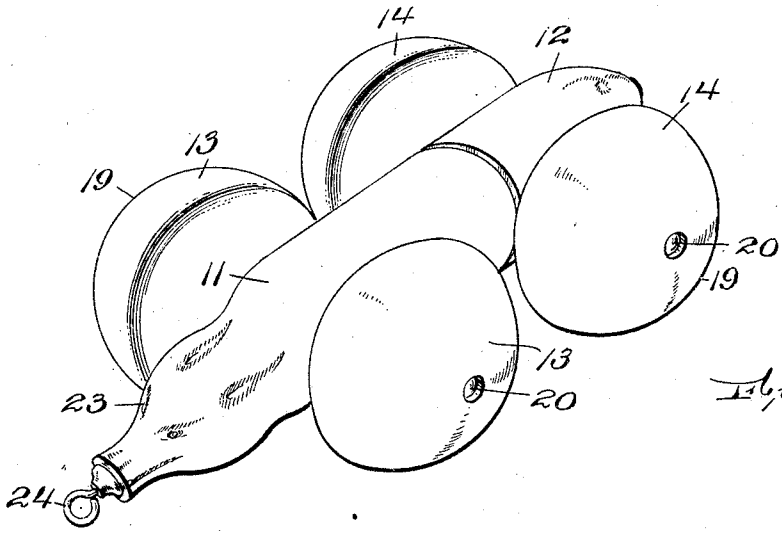


Fig. 1

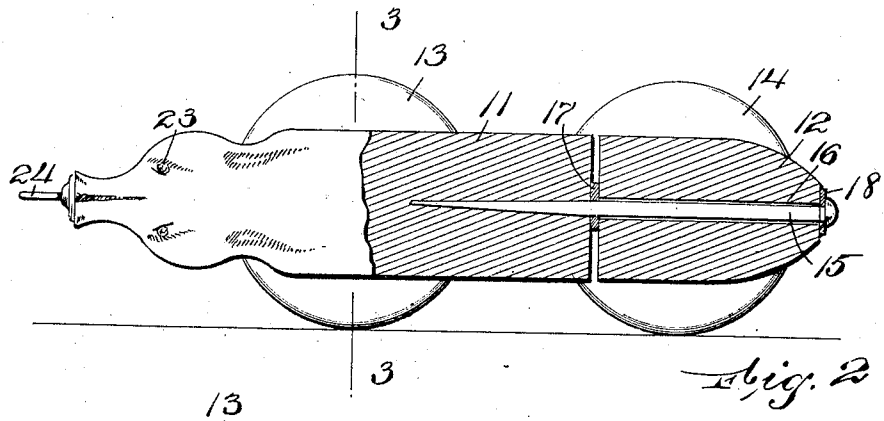


Fig. 2

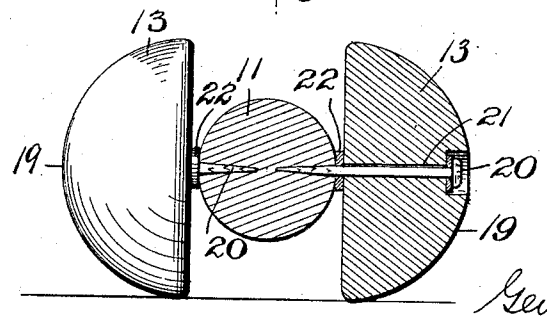


Fig. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. CARVER, OF EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY.

WHEELED TOY.

Application filed November 2, 1922, Serial No. 598,497. Renewed October 23, 1925.

This invention relates to a toy which is drawn across the floor or ground and will maintain its position over uneven surfaces, and which will also regain the normal position from any abnormal or upset position, without any effort on the part of the person using the toy and due entirely to the construction thereof.

In the drawing accompanying this specification I illustrate one toy embodying the principles of my invention, and in said drawing Figure 1 is a perspective view of a toy made according to my invention. Figure 2 is a longitudinal central section with the front part of the body portion shown in elevation, and Figure 3 is a cross-section of the body portion and one of the wheels thereof, taken on line 3—3 in Figure 2, the other wheel being shown in elevation.

The body portion, in the type illustrated, represents an animal and is elongated, the body portion comprising two members 11 and 12, each of these members having wheels suitably disposed, the wheels for the front member being shown at 13, and the wheels for the rear member being shown at 14.

In my invention I connect the members of the body portion so that they are swivelled one on the other and are thus rotatable on a longitudinal axis, so that if one is held against rotation the other one can rotate. In the form shown this swivelled connection is provided by affixing the rear member 12 to the front member 11 by a nail 15 which is driven solidly into the rear end of the front member 11, but is fitted into a hole 16 in the rear member, which hole is slightly larger than the nail so that the member can rotate therein.

To prevent unnecessary friction I prefer to place a small washer 17 between the members, and to provide a proper bearing for the head of the nail 15 I usually insert a washer 18 at the rear of the member 11. This connection permits the rear member to spin or to rotate on the front member, and vice versa, which is particularly advantageous when the wheels 13 and 14 are provided with rounded outer faces, and I prefer to make the wheels with the outer or convex faces 19 semi-spherical. This is further advantageous, since when the toys are made of wood, balls of wood can be turned up and then cut in half to provide the wheels.

The wheels are secured to the sides of the members of the body portion, and in the form shown they are secured by the nails 20 which are driven through the holes 21 in the wheels, in which holes they loosely fit, and then into the body portion. The washers 22 provide for a small bearing surface and thus prevent frictional contact of the inner faces of the wheels with the body portion.

In a toy of this kind it is preferred to make the body portion so that there is no top or bottom to it, so that when it is reversed it appears the same, and in the form shown the body portion is made in the representation of a pig with the eyes 23 and other facial representations placed on the top and bottom faces of the front part of the body portion.

This toy can not retain any position other than a position in which it rests on the four wheels, because if stood up on edge it will fall over in any direction and assume its original position, and when drawn by a string, which is usually applied by a suitable element such as the ring 24, if it is suddenly reversed or turned sharply the front part has a tendency to roll over on one of the wheels, due to the swivelled connection between the two members of the body portion. In other words, there is a degree of flexibility, due to the construction and assembling of the parts, which compensates for quick changes in direction or a reversal of the toy, in that either of the members can turn fully on the other without disturbing the other member, and neither of them can be balanced on the outer faces of the wheels on account of the curved outer faces of these wheels.

In a toy such as shown in the drawing this is further carried out by making the wheels of light wood and the body portion of heavier and harder wood, so that in any other position, except when the device is resting on the four wheels, it will not remain balanced, but will fall over.

It will be evident that various animals or vehicles can be simulated in the toy.

I claim:

1. A toy comprising a body portion made up of two members having a connection between them that allows free relative rotation, and substantially hemispherical wheels on each member said wheels being of larger diameter than the body portion.

2. A toy comprising a body portion made up of two members each freely reversible on the other, and a pair of hemispherical wheels

on each member and of larger diameter than the member whereby each of the members can roll on its wheels when reversed.

3. A toy comprising two body portion members connected together so that they are swivelled and can freely revolve and hemispherical wheels with rounded outer faces and of a diameter to extend beyond the body portion.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing, I have hereto set my hand, this 19th day of October, 1922.

G. W. CARVER.