J. J. WEBBER.

BABY WALKER.

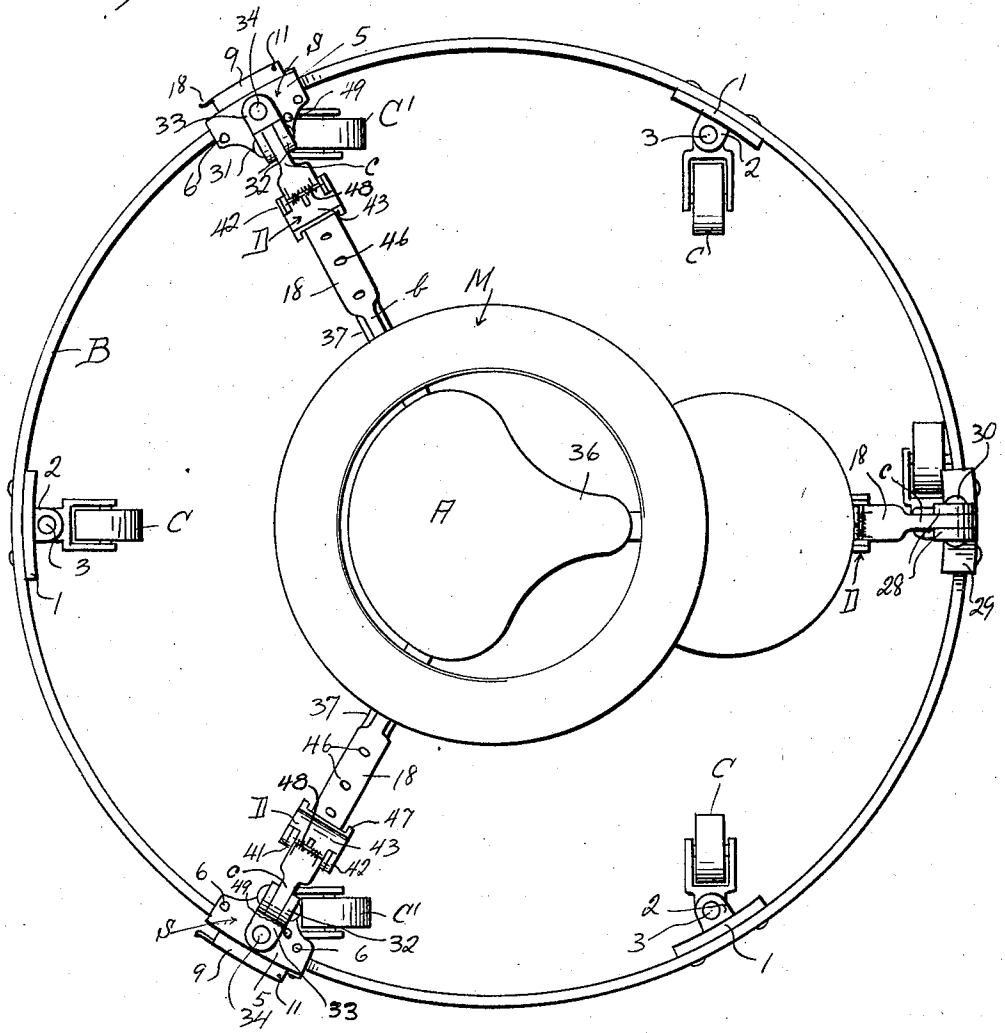
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 27, 1919.

1,342,518.

Patented June 8, 1920.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

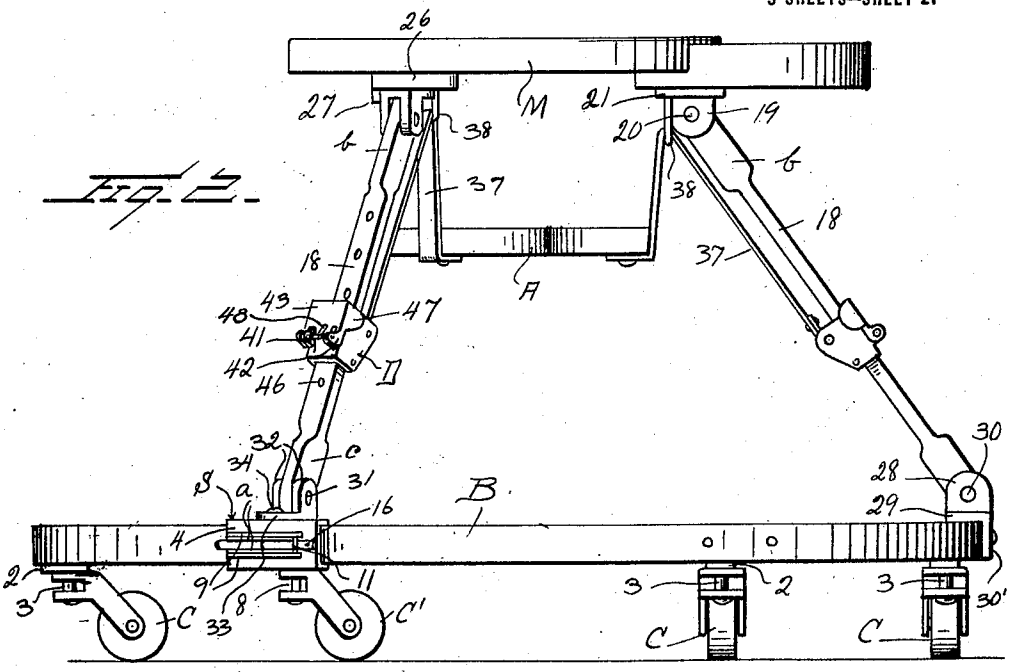


Fig. 3.

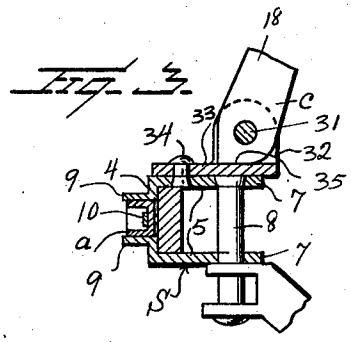


Fig. 5.

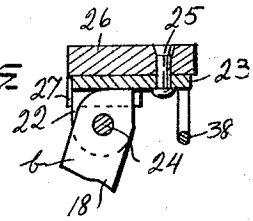


Fig. 6.

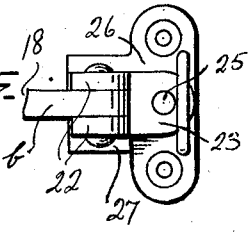


Fig. 4.

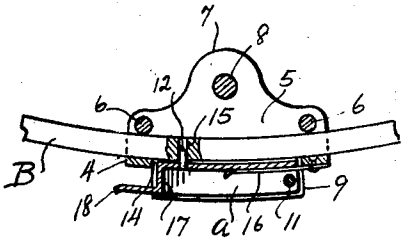
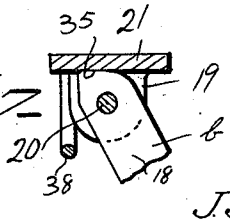


Fig. 7.



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 8.

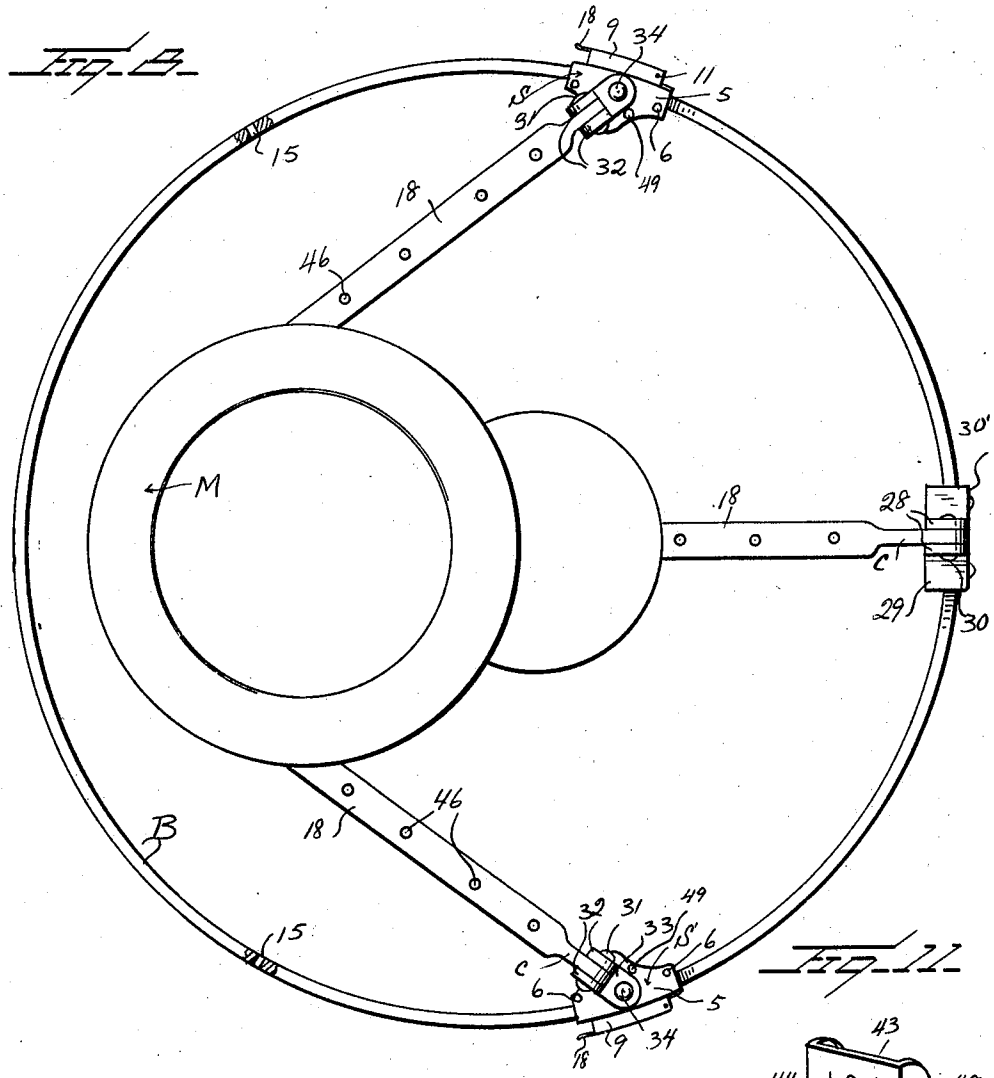


Fig. 11.

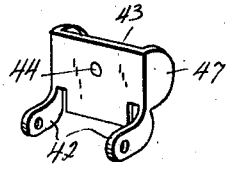


Fig. 10.

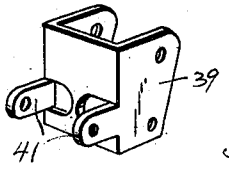
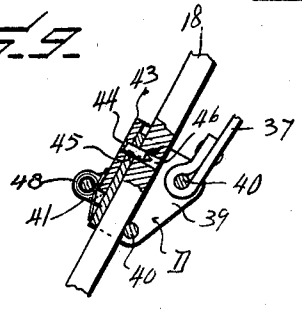


Fig. 9.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BABY-WALKER.

1,342,518. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 8, 1920.

Application filed August 27, 1919. Serial No. 320,276.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN J. WEBBER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Baby-Walkers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to certain improvements in baby walkers, and it is an object of the invention to provide a novel and improved device of this general character which may be readily collapsed or compacted when not in use so that the same can be conveniently stored within a minimum of space.

It is also an object of the invention to provide a novel and improved device of this general character whereby an infant is effectively supported when endeavoring to walk and wherein a saddle is provided to afford means whereby the child may rest.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved device of this general character wherein a saddle is employed, together with means whereby the saddle may be adjusted in accordance with the requirements of practice.

The invention consists in the details of construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts of my improved baby walker whereby certain important advantages are attained and the device rendered simpler, less expensive and otherwise more convenient and advantageous for use, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

The novel features of my invention will hereinafter be definitely claimed.

In order that my invention may be the better understood, I will now proceed to describe the same with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a view in top plan of a baby walker constructed in accordance with an embodiment of my invention.

Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation of the device as illustrated in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary view partly in section and partly in elevation illustrating a slide and its concomitant parts as herein included.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary view partly in top plan and partly in longitudinal section illustrating said slide in applied position.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary view partly in elevation and partly in section illustrating the connection of a member or arm with the supporting member.

Fig. 6 is a view in bottom plan of the structure illustrated in Fig. 5 with the supporting member omitted.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary view partly in elevation and partly in section illustrating a connection between a second member or arm with the supporting member.

Fig. 8 is a view in top plan of the improved device in folded or collapsed position, certain of the parts being omitted.

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary view partly in section and partly in elevation illustrating means for holding the saddle in working position.

Fig. 10 is a view in perspective of the slide comprised in the means partly illustrated in Fig. 9.

Fig. 11 is a view in perspective of the latch member carried by the slide illustrated in Fig. 10.

As disclosed in the accompanying drawings, B denotes a base comprising an annular member of desired diameter. Secured to the inner face of the base B at diametrically opposed points and also at one side of the axial center of the base are the plates 1. Each of the plates 1 is provided with a pair of vertically spaced inwardly directed perforate ears 2 which afford a mounting for the shank 3 of a supporting caster C. Also engaged with the base B are slides S which, when the device is in working condition, are positioned substantially central between adjacent plates 1.

Each of the slides S comprises an elongated member 4 longitudinally curved on substantially the same radius as the base B and said member is substantially U-shaped in cross section with its side flanges 5 extending inwardly of the base and overlying the upper and lower edges thereof. The flanges 5 are connected by the pins 6 or the

like which substantially contact with the inner face of the base B whereby the member 4 is maintained in applied position and the slide permitted to have movement along the base. The central portions of the flanges 5 are extended to afford perforate ears 7 which afford a mounting for the shank 8 of an additional caster C'. Through the instrumentality of the casters C and C' it will be obvious that the base B is readily movable over a floor or other supporting surface.

The member 4 is also provided with a pair of outstanding and longitudinally spaced flanges 9 vertically spaced and between which seats an elongated latch member 10 substantially U-shaped in cross section. End portions of the side flanges *a* of the latch member 10 are pivotally engaged as indicated at 11 with corresponding end portions of the flanges 9. The opposite end portion of the latch member is provided with an inwardly directed pin or lug 12 which extends through an opening 14 provided in the member 4 and which is also adapted to extend within an opening 15 in the base B when the slide S has been properly adjusted, to bring the openings 14 and 15 into register. The latch member 10 is constantly urged inwardly or toward the member 4 by a flat spring 16 having one end portion anchored to the member 4 adjacent the pivotal connection 11 and overlying the member 4. The free end portion of the latch member 10 is closed by a flange or wall 17 and the outer marginal portion of said wall or flange 17 is provided with an outstanding lip or tongue 18 adapted to be grasped by the finger so that the latch member 10 may be conveniently swung into a position to release the latch member 10 from the base B so that the slide S may be moved for a purpose to be hereinafter referred to.

M denotes an annular supporting member of desired diameter but of a diameter materially less than the diameter of the base B. The member M, when in working position, is held at a desired distance above the central portion of the base B and said member M is supported in its raised or elevated position through the instrumentality of the elongated members or arms 18.

The upper end portion of each of the members or arms 18 is provided with a flattened portion *b* and the portion *b* of one of the arms or members 18 extends between a pair of depending ears 19 and pivotally engaged therewith as at 20. The ears 19 depend from the plate 21 fixed to the under surface of the member M. The portion *b* of each of the remaining arms or members 18 extends between a pair of transversely spaced ears 22 extending outwardly from a plate 23 and the portion *b* between the ears 22 is pivotally engaged therewith as at 24. The end portion of the plate 23 remote from the ears 19 is pivotally engaged as at 25 to a plate 26 secured to the under face of the supporting member M. The plate 26 is provided with a depending lug 27 with which the plate 23 engages so that the swinging movement of the plate 23 past the center in one direction is prevented.

The opposite or lower end portion of each of the members or arms 18 is also provided with a flattened portion *c*. The flattened portion *c* of the first named member or arm 18 extends between upstanding ears 28 carried by a plate 29 and is pivotally connected therewith as at 30. The plate 29 is provided with a depending flange 30' overlying the outer face of the base B and secured thereto at a point remote from the slides S and substantially midway thereof.

The members or arms 18 are preferably three in number and the portion *c* of each of the remaining two members or arms 18 extends between and is pivotally connected as at 31 with the upstanding and transversely spaced ears 32 carried by an end portion of a plate 33. The opposite end portion of the plate 33 is pivotally engaged as at 34 with the upper flange 5 of the member 4 of a slide S.

When the slides S are locked against movement by the latch members 10, the supporting member M is held in its raised or elevated position, but when it is desired to collapse or compact the device, the latch members 10 are disengaged from the base B and moved toward the plate 29, which movement permits the member M to drop down to a position closely adjacent to the base B so that when the device is not in use the same will occupy a minimum of space.

The opposite end portion of each of the members or arms 18 is provided with a straight edge 35, which straight edges serve as stops to limit the relative separating movement of the base B and the member M. The member M when raised or elevated surrounds the body of the child to hold the same from falling when endeavoring to walk and the diameter of the base B is such as to offer no hindrance or obstruction to the steps which the child may take.

In order that the child or infant may rest when desired, I provide a saddle A having a restricted portion 36 adapted to be straddled by the child or infant when walking. As herein disclosed the saddle A is supported below the member M by the flexible straps 37, preferably rubber, secured to the saddle and extending upwardly and through the loop or guide members 38 depending from the plates 21 and 23. Each of the straps 37 extends downwardly from its coacting loop or guide 38 along a member or arm 18 and is anchored to a slide D mov-

able longitudinally of said member or arm 18. By adjusting the slides D longitudinally of the members or arms 18 the saddle A may be raised or lowered as the occasions of practice may necessitate.

Each of the slides D comprises an elongated member substantially U-shaped in cross section which straddles from above a member or arm 18 and the side flanges 39 below or inwardly of the arm or member 18 are connected by the cross pins 40 or the like. One of said pins substantially contacts with the arm or member 18 to facilitate the maintenance thereof in working position while a strap 37 is suitably secured to a second of such pins.

The slide D is also provided with a pair of transversely spaced and outstanding ears 41 with which are pivotally engaged the outstanding ears 42 carried by a latch member 43. The latch member 43 is provided with an inwardly directed pin or lug 44 which passes through an opening 45 in the slide D and extends within an opening 46 in the member or arm 18 and in register with the opening 45. Each of the members or arms 18 is provided with a series of longitudinally spaced openings 46 so that the slide carried thereby may be locked against movement at different points therealong so that the saddle A may be held in its desired vertical adjustment.

The latch member 43 is provided at its opposite sides with the inwardly directed flanges 47 which overlie the flanges 39 of the slide D when the latch member 43 is in working position.

Coacting with the latch member 43 is a spring 48 which operates to constantly urge the member 43 toward the member or arm 18. The upper flange 5 of each of the slides S is provided with an upstanding pin or lug 49 which serves as a stop to limit the swinging movement of the plate 33 in one direction and which positive limitation of movement is necessary to keep the member M from rocking sidewise when the slide S is locked against movement.

In other words, the stops 49 of the slides S coöperate with the plates 33 to make the supporting member M rigid with respect to the base B.

From the foregoing description, it is thought to be obvious that a baby walker constructed in accordance with my invention is particularly well adapted for use by reason of the convenience and facility with which it may be assembled and operated and it will also be obvious that my invention is susceptible of some change and modification without departing from the principles and spirit thereof and for this reason I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to the precise arrangement and formation of the several parts herein shown in carrying out my invention in practice except as hereinafter claimed.

I claim:

1. A baby walker comprising a base, a supporting member positioned thereabove, supporting arms interposed between the base and the supporting member, a saddle positioned below the supporting member, and supporting members for the saddle coacting with the first named supporting member and the legs.

2. A baby walker comprising a portable base, a supporting member positioned thereabove, legs connecting the base and supporting member, slides carried by the legs, guides carried by the supporting member, and flexible members connecting the slides and the saddle and passing through the guides.

3. A baby walker comprising a portable base, a supporting member positioned thereabove, legs connecting the base and supporting member, slides carried by the legs, guides carried by the supporting member, flexible members connecting the slides and the saddle and passing through the guides, and means for holding the slides against movement.

4. A baby walker comprising a portable base, a supporting member positioned thereabove, legs connecting the base and supporting member, slides carried by the legs, guides carried by the supporting member, flexible members connecting the slides and the saddle and passing through the guides, means for holding the slides against movement, and means for locking the slides against movement at different points along the legs.

5. A baby walker comprising a base, a supporting member, an arm pivotally engaged with the base and supporting member about substantially horizontal axes, plates pivotally engaged with the supporting member and base about substantially vertical axes, and arms connecting the base and the supporting member and pivotally engaged with the plates about substantially horizontal axes, and slides engaged with the base and to which certain of the plates are directly pivoted.

6. A baby walker comprising a base, a supporting member, an arm pivotally engaged with the base and supporting member about substantially horizontal axes, plates pivotally engaged with the supporting member and base about substantially vertical axes, arms connecting the base and the supporting member and pivotally engaged with the plates about substantially horizontal axes, and slides engaged with the base and to which certain of the plates are directly pivoted, and means for holding the slides against movement in one direction.

7. A baby walker comprising a base, a

supporting member, an arm operatively engaged with the base and supporting member, slides engaged with the base, and arms operatively engaged with the supporting member and the slides.

8. A baby walker comprising a base, a supporting member, an arm operatively engaged with the base and supporting member, slides engaged with the base, arms operatively engaged with the supporting member and the slides, and means for holding the slides against movement.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

JOHN J. WEBBER.