Oct. 15, 1929. H. S. HITCHCOCK 1,731,926

TOY ANIMAL

Filed July 28, 1927 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

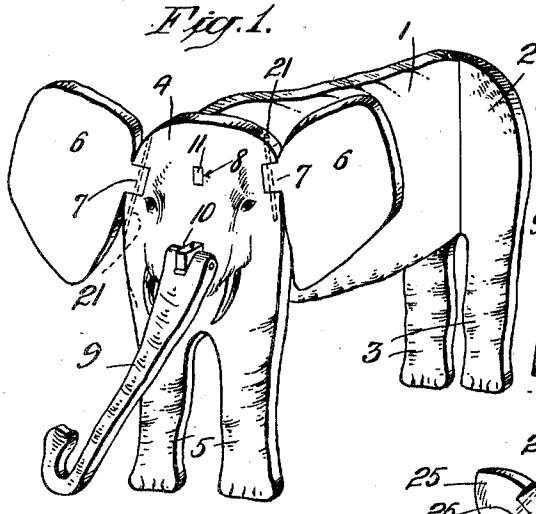
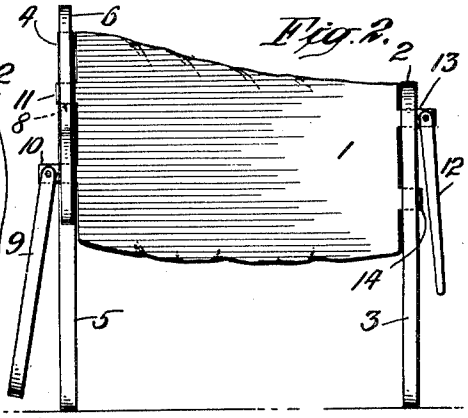


Fig. 2.



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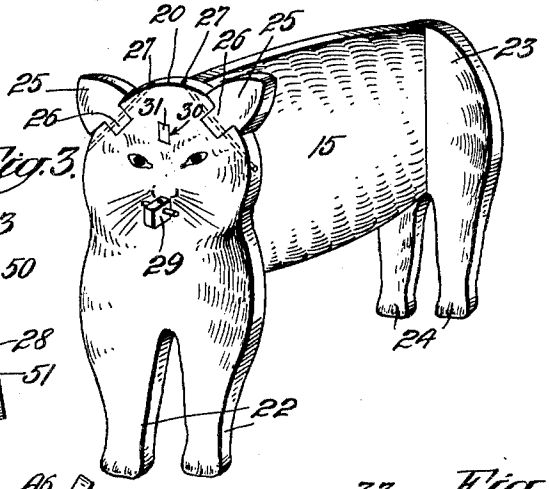

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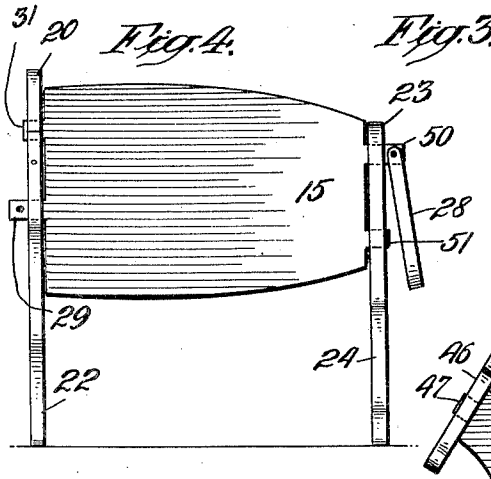

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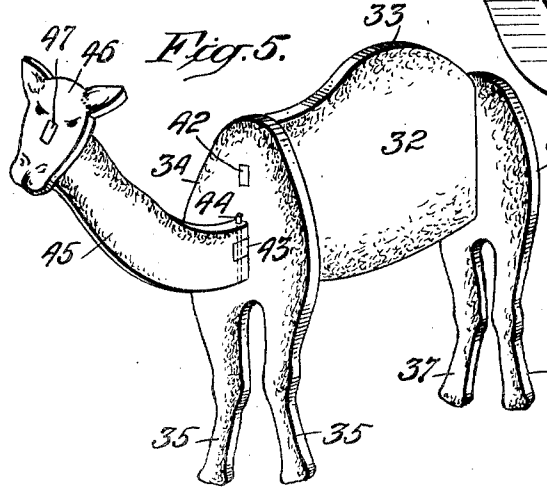
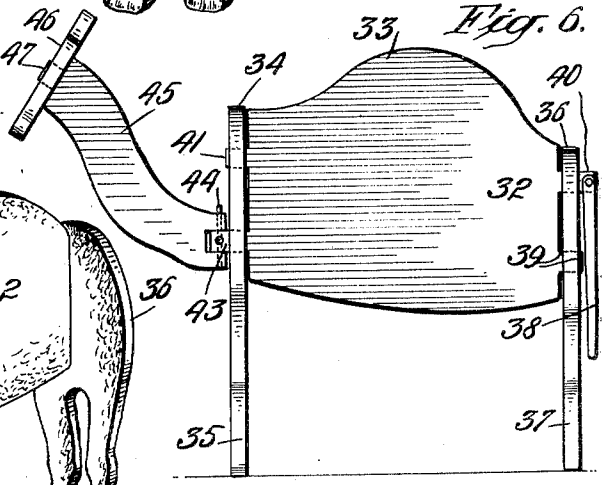


Fig. 6.



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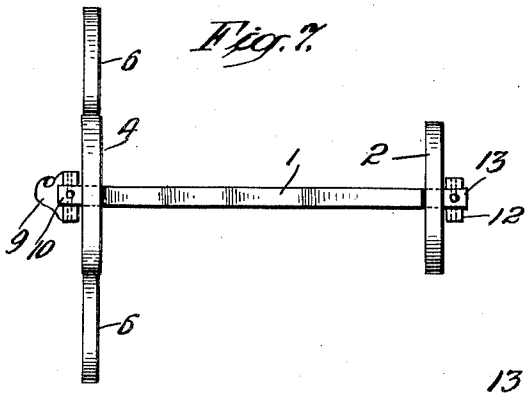
Filed July 28, 1927 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 7.



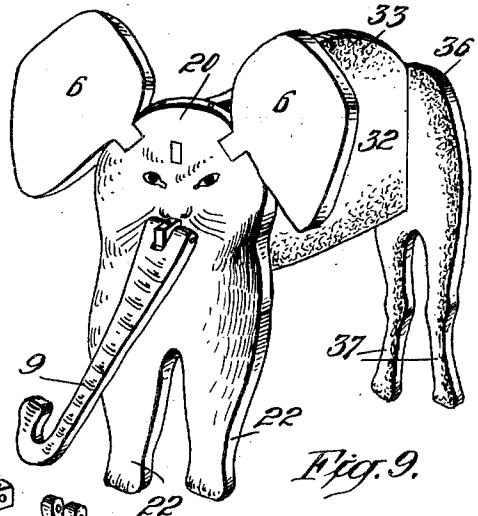
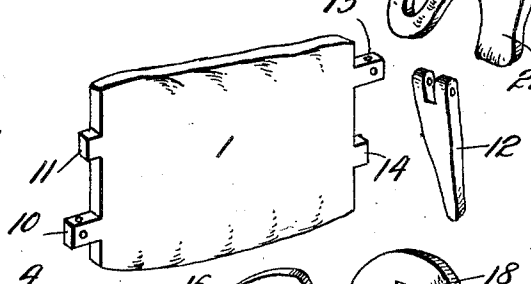
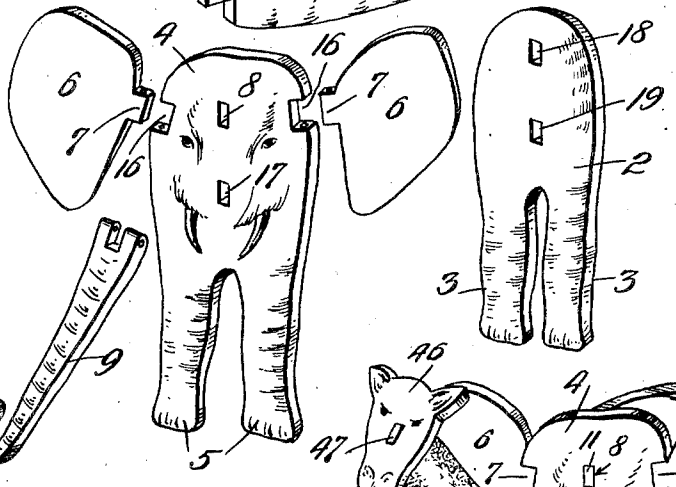


Fig. 9.

Fig. 8.





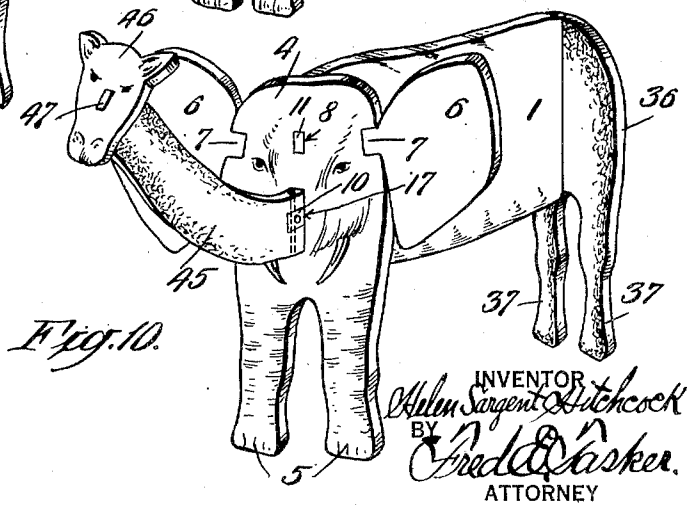


Fig. 10.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

HELEN SARGENT HITCHCOCK, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

TOY ANIMAL

Application filed July 28, 1927. Serial No. 208,909.

My present invention relates to toy animals, having for its object the provision of a unique, interesting and novel device or play object for the amusement of children.

The invention consists essentially in animals or other natural creations simulated in sections or sheets of relatively thin material of any suitable kind, as cardboard, wood, metal, or artificial substance; each toy animal, as a cat, elephant, dog, camel, or the like, consisting of a plurality of separable members, many of which are interchangeable between the different animals, so that the head or haunch or other part of one may be exchanged for that of another, as the head of a cat for the head of an elephant, and so on, the resulting figure being an amusing mongrel or monstrosity which will excite wonder and comment for the childish imagination; and further in order that the simulated animal members may be able to stand erect notwithstanding the thin pieces of which they consist, certain of the members are attached to the others at right or other angles so that said members occupy two planes. By thus having the plural members of the toy animals detachable from each other, and using suitable connecting means adapted to enable them to be recombined and reattached in a great variety of novel forms, I offer a toy puzzle or complex of charm and attractiveness, besides affording an educational benefit in zoological lines.

With these and other objects and purposes in view, and upon this general statement of means, the invention may be further said to consist essentially in the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, substantially as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing illustrating my invention:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a toy elephant.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the same.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of a toy cat.

Figure 4 is a side elevation of the same.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of a toy camel.

Figure 6 is a side elevation of the same.

Figure 7 is a plan view of the elephant as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 8 is a detail view of all the parts of the toy elephant disassembled.

Figure 9 is a view of a composite toy made up of parts of a camel, a cat and an elephant.

Figure 10 is a view of a composite toy animal made up of parts of an elephant and camel.

Like characters of reference denote like parts in all the figures of the drawing.

To explain my invention I have portrayed a cat, an elephant and a camel, merely as examples, each made up of separable members, which are interchangeable.

1 denotes the body of an elephant; a front member attached to the body 1 at right angles thereto has head 4 and front legs 5, 5; a rear member 2 attached to body 1 in a plane at right angles thereto has hind legs 3, 3. The body 1 has rear tenons 13 and 14 which enter slots 18 and 19 in rear member 2, and tenon 13 is longer so as to project through slot 18 far enough to permit tail 12 to be pivoted thereto. And body 1 has also the front tenons 11 and 10 that enter slots 8 and 17 in the head 4, the tenon 10 being longer than tenon 11 so as to project far enough through the slot 17 to allow the trunk 9 to be pivoted thereto. Elephant head 4 is provided with ears 6, 6, having projections 7, 7, adapted to enter slots 16 in head 4 and be removably held therein by suitable pins 21. Thus it will be seen how the elephant can be taken apart.

The toy cat is similarly made. The body 15 is attached to the head 20 which is a part of a front member having feet 22, 22, and also to a rear member 23, having hind feet 24. The front member has slots in the head 20 to receive the tenons 29 and 31, one of the slots, as 30, receiving tenon 31, while the other tenon 29 is preferably longer. Also head 20 has ears 25, provided with projections 26 that enter the suitable notches in the head and are held removably in place by pins 27. The rear member 23 has slots to receive the tenons 50 and 51, said tenon 50 being the longer so that tail 28 can be pivoted thereon.

Also the toy camel is made up of separable parts. Its body 32 with a hump 33, is pro-

vided with tenons 41 and 43 that enter slots in the front member 34 formed with legs 35. The slot 42 is entered by tenon 41. Also body 32 has rear tenons 39 and 40 entering slots in rear member 36 which is provided with hind legs 37; and tenon 40 here is longer so that the tail 38 may be pivoted thereto. The head 46 of the camel is tenoned at 47 to the long neck 45 which is pivoted to front tenon 43 by a pin 44.

It will be readily seen how one or more of the parts of these animals may be exchanged for similar parts of the other toys; and how a multitude of new combinations may be effected; for the re-assembling and recombining of the members may be extensive. Of course the cat, camel, and elephant are only examples of animals that may be used, for I can utilize any number or kind of the same.

In Figures 7, 9 and 10, I show how the interchangeability of the parts is effected, and how I produce the specimen of unreal or imaginary animal figures that result from the novel combinations of the separable parts. Thus in Figure 9 we have a creature with the body, haunch and hind legs of a camel, the head and forelegs of a cat, the trunk and ears of an elephant. And in Figure 10 I offer an imaginary quadruped having the body, head, ears and front legs of an elephant, with the rear legs and long neck and head of a camel.

Fantastic shapes and forms result from making up the toy creatures in this way, but they fascinate and attract the childish mind so as to furnish not only amusement but instruction. Some effective means for enabling these parts to be exchanged, as for example, the tenons and slots, is of course necessary, and it is essential that the animals correspond more or less in size at the junctures in so far as the necessary fitting is involved. For example, when the front member 34 of the camel is disconnected from camel body 32, the cat front member 20 may be substituted, as in Figure 9, and the elephant's ears 6, 6, may replace the cat's ears 25. Or the neck 45 of the camel may be attached to the front of the elephant's face 4 in place of trunk 9, as in Figure 10; and so on, and so on, in a great variety of ways.

My invention is not confined to mammals or vertebrates, but may be extended to include all the members of the animal kingdom, meaning to include birds and fishes. All species are included, and all forms, irrespective of size and shape. It is an important point that the head and body, or other parts, occupy planes at right angles to each other, to make the animal more lifelike and to enable it to stand upright. Further the tenons may be without holes for pins, or may have single holes, or two-way holes for different uses in different combinations.

What I claim, is:

A toy animal, composed of a plurality of interconnected and separable parts of flat thin material, one part representing the body and other parts representing the front and hind legs of an animal, said front and hind leg members each having a pair of legs made in one piece respectively, the front leg member carrying the head of the animal, and the front and hind leg members, being detachably connected to the body at right angles thereto to enable the toy animal to keep an upright position, said detachable connection consisting of tenons on the body member and slots in the front and hind leg members adapted to be entered by said tenons, together with means for holding the tenons in the slots.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature

HELEN SARGENT HITCHCOCK.