Dec. 1, 1942. J. DAVIDSON 2,303,527

CARRIAGE

Filed July 22, 1939 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

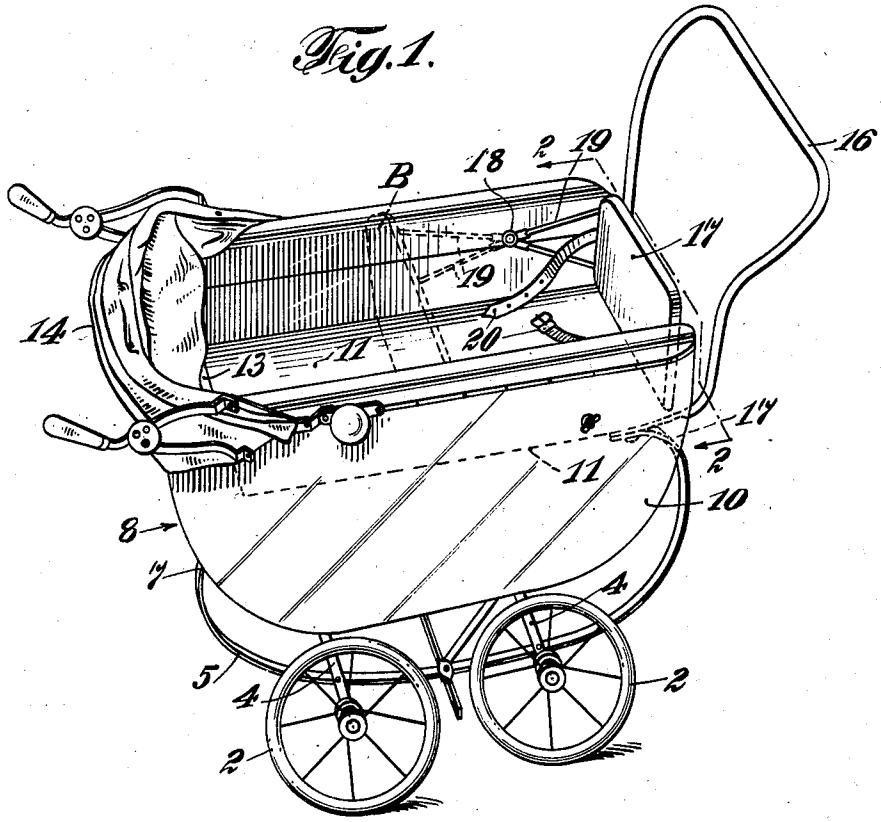
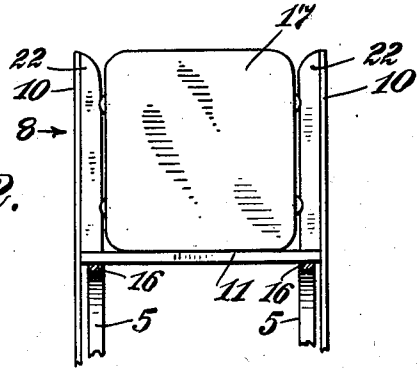


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

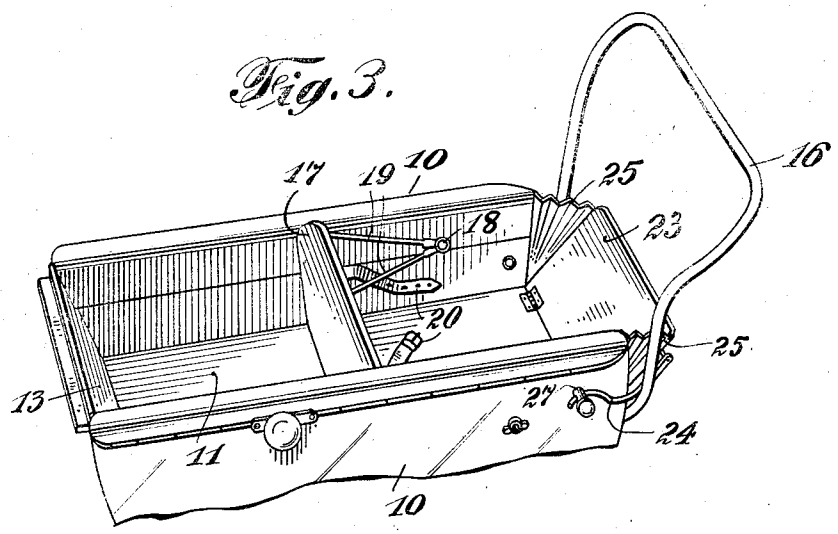


Fig. 4.

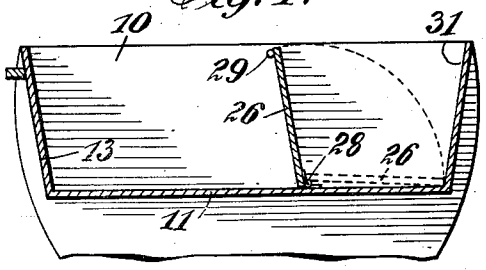


Fig. 5.

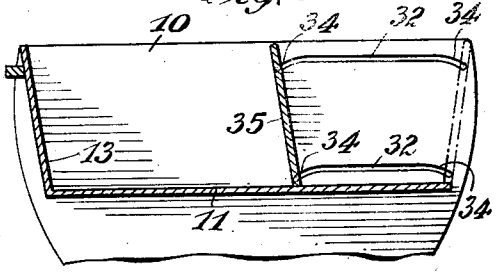
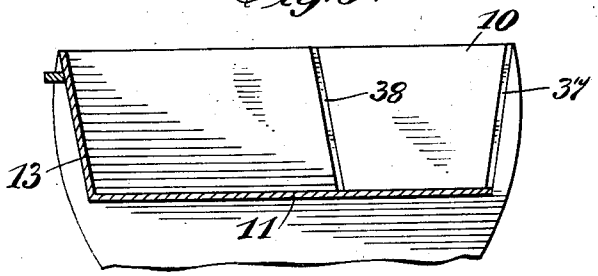


Fig. 6.



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Patented Dec. 1, 1942

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,303,527

CARRIAGE

Joseph Davidson, Scarsdale, N. Y.

Application July 22, 1939, Serial No. 285,932

1 Claim. (Cl. 296—50)

The present invention relates generally to improvements in wheeled vehicles of the baby carriage or doll carriage type. The invention is directed more particularly to an improved construction adapted to facilitate carrying a plurality of dolls simultaneously within the carriage, although the mechanism may be utilized in baby carriages generally.

Most children possess several dolls but, usually, only a single doll carriage. Children like to carry two or more dolls when wheeling their doll baby carriages, and prefer to have their dolls separated from each other. The present invention is directed to a carriage which may be utilized with a single large carrying compartment or which may be divided into a plurality of compartments so that two dolls may be carried, one behind the other. The invention aims to provide means for easily and quickly converting the carrying compartment from a large single one into separate compartments arranged in tandem. The invention also aims to provide a converting means that may be operated by a child.

An object of the present invention is to provide means for dividing a single doll carriage compartment into a plurality of compartments.

Another object of the invention is to provide a simple and inexpensive means for dividing a single doll carriage compartment into two tandem compartments.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved dividing means that may be easily operated by a child.

A further object of the invention is to provide means adapted to retain the dividing member firmly in normal position.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a dividing means that may be easily and quickly installed during the manufacture of a doll carriage.

Other and further objects of the invention will be obvious upon an understanding of the illustrative embodiment about to be described, or will be indicated in the appended claim, and various advantages not referred to herein will occur to one skilled in the art upon employment of the invention in practice.

A preferred embodiment of the invention has been chosen for purposes of illustration and description and is shown in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the specification, wherein

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a preferred embodiment of a doll carriage with the dividing means therein;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary rear elevational view taken along line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing a preferred form of end retaining means;

Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view of a modified form of dividing means;

Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view of another modified form of dividing means; and

Fig. 6 is a longitudinal sectional view of still another modified form of dividing means.

Referring again to the drawings and more particularly to Fig. 1 thereof, there is shown a preferred embodiment of the invention. Generally described the construction comprises wheels 2 mounted on axles 4 which are secured to springs 5 of the framework or undercarriage. The undercarriage is attached adjacent the ends 7 of the upwardly curved springs to the body 8 of the carriage. The body 8 of the carriage comprises side portions 10 which preferably extend downwardly to partially conceal the parts of the undercarriage and a bottom portion 11 secured between the sides 10 with an upwardly extending end portion 13 at one end thereof. The sides 10 are preferably padded to prevent injury to a child or doll and to more nearly resemble an actual baby carriage. A foldable top or sunshade 14 may be pivoted to the sides and a handle portion 16 may be provided at the rear of the carriage to facilitate propelling the vehicle. All of the above described parts are known and do not form the novel elements of the present invention.

The rearward end of the carriage is normally closed by a member 17 extending between the rear ends of the side members 10 and resting on the bottom portion 11 of the carriage. The bottom portion 11 preferably comprises a substantially flat, unitary member to the underside of which are attached the ends 7 of the curved supporting springs 5 and the handle 16. In this relation the bottom portion 11, upwardly extending side members 10 and front and rear portions 13 and 17 form a single large carrying compartment for a doll or the like. Attached at each end of the back portion 17 and extending into the carrying compartment is a bracket member 19. This bracket preferably comprises a V-shaped member with its free ends secured by means of screws, nails or other suitable means to the ends of the back portion adjacent the top and bottom thereof. The apex of the V-shaped bracket is provided with a recess or aperture adapted to receive a bolt or other pivotal securing means 18. The bolts 18 preferably extend

through apertures in the sides 10 of the carriage and are retained in position by a nut or thumbscrew threaded to their outer ends.

To convert the single large carrying compartment into two separate compartments, located one behind the other, the back member 17 is rotated upwardly and forwardly about the pivot 18 through 180°. In this forward position the back 17 rests against the bottom portion 11 intermediate the ends of the sides 10. The intermediate or forward position of the back member is shown in dotted lines at B of Fig. 1. The substantially flat bottom portion 11 forms the bottom for both the large and small carrying compartments. The back member 17 is the only part which need be adjusted to convert the carriage body from a single to a double compartment; the bottom 11 and sides 10 are in operative position at all times and require no adjustment.

With the back member in intermediate position at B one doll may be placed in the front compartment of the carriage and another may be placed in the rear compartment, with the movable back member forming a back rest for the dolls.

When the back member 17 is in forward position the end of the carrying compartment will be open, so that the legs of a doll in the rear compartment may extend out through the opening and beyond the end of the carriage. To prevent the doll from falling out through the end of the rear compartment there is preferably provided a belt or safety strap 20 which may be buckled about the doll to hold it securely therein. The safety belt may also be used when the back is in position to provide a single compartment and may also be swung about to hold a doll within the forward of the compartments. When the back member 17 is at the rear of the carriage to provide a single compartment the safety belt will be in position to hold a doll therein and when the back member 17 is moved to intermediate position the safety belt 20 becomes automatically available for holding a doll within the rear compartment to prevent the doll from falling out when the drop is not used, as will be later described.

In Fig. 2 means are shown adapted to assist in retaining the back member 17 in normal position at the rear and resting against the bottom 11. Extending inwardly from the sides 10 adjacent the ends thereof and attached thereto are members 22 adapted to frictionally contact the ends of the back member to prevent accidental movement of the member away from the bottom 11. The back member may thus be held in position against shocks and jars but may be readily shifted to its forward position.

Fig. 3 illustrates a carriage similar to that shown in Figs. 1 and 2 but provided with means adapted to form a closed end at the rear of the carrying compartment when the back member 17 is in forward position. Essentially the drop or folding end comprises a portion 23 hinged or pivoted at its lower end to the carriage bottom 11. The back portion may be held upright against the ends of the sides 10 or may be moved rearwardly to an inclined or horizontal position as shown in Fig. 3. In this position a doll may be placed in the rear compartment to rest in reclining posture against the portion 23. A flexible member 25 of cloth or the like preferably connects the drop with the ends of the sides 10 and a rod 24 secured at one end to the drop passing through an apertured post 27 may be clamped in various positions to hold the drop at different inclinations.

Figs. 4, 5 and 6 each illustrate a modified form of means adapted to divide a carriage into separate compartments.

In Fig. 4 the member 26 lies against the bottom 11 of the carriage when not in use and may be rotated upwardly and forwardly about a hinge or pivot 28 to rest against a pin 29, or be otherwise held erect. The member 26 thus divides the carriage into separate compartments and also forms a back rest. Since the dividing member 26 does not close the end of the carriage in normal position, there is also provided an end member 31 similar to the end member 13 at the front of the carriage. It will be understood that a drop and safety belt similar to that shown in Fig. 3 may be utilized if desired instead of the end member 31.

In Fig. 5 longitudinally extending receses 32 with downwardly inclined end portions 34 are cut or otherwise formed at the inner faces of the side walls 10 adjacent the top and bottom of the carrying compartment. The recesses are adapted to receive and form guideways for pins which project outwardly from the sides of the dividing member 35 and into the slots 32. The downwardly inclined end portions 34 of the recesses 32 hold the dividing member 35 in position adjacent the end or middle of the carrying compartment. Preferably the upper recess is slightly longer than the lower recess so that when the dividing member is in either of its two usual positions it will be inclined slightly with respect to the horizontal to form a more convenient and comfortable back rest for a doll. If desired, a drop and safety belt may be used with this modification also.

In Fig. 6 the positioning means for the movable back or dividing member comprises substantially vertically extending recesses 37 and 38 formed at the inner surfaces of the side walls 10. A dividing member may be inserted into the recesses 37 at the rear of the carriage to form a single large compartment or may be inserted within the recesses 38 to form separate compartments. In this modification also a drop and safety belt may be used at the end of the carriage if desired.

While the present invention has been shown as dividing a single compartment into two compartments it will be understood that the single compartment may be divided into more than two compartments. For example, the prefered embodiment shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 may be combined with the modification shown in Fig. 4 to divide a carriage into three separate compartments. In such event the modification of Fig. 4 could be positioned so as to provide the forward compartment and the preferred embodiment utilized to form the two rearward compartments. The invention has also been described particularly with reference to doll carriages but it will be apparent that it is also applicable to baby carriages.

It will be seen that the present invention provides an inexpensive and practical means for dividing a doll carriage into separate compartments. The compartments are arranged in tandem and the dolls may sit both facing ahead or to the rear or toward each other. The device is not complicated and may be easily operated by a child. In addition, it is sturdy and well able to withstand any rough usage to which it may be subjected.

As various changes may be made in the form, construction and arrangement of the parts herein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention and without sacrificing any of its advantages, it is to be understood that all matter herein is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

A carriage body having an end wall, side walls provided with a pair of substantially longitudinally extending recesses in proximity to the top and bottom thereof each having downwardly extending portions adjacent their ends and with the lower of said recesses being shorter than the upper to facilitate inclination of a dividing member, and a movable carriage dividing member having portions projecting into said recesses and adapted to be guided thereby during movement of the carriage dividing member.

JOSEPH DAVIDSON.