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E. D. FEDDERSEN

CHILD'S VEHICLE

Filed April 11, 1925

Fig. 1.

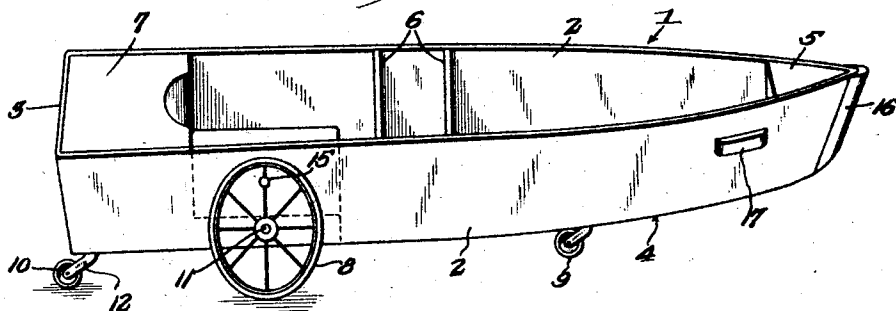


Fig. 2.

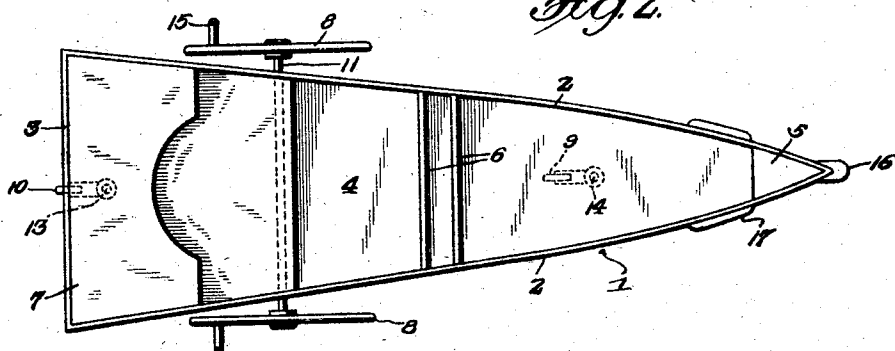
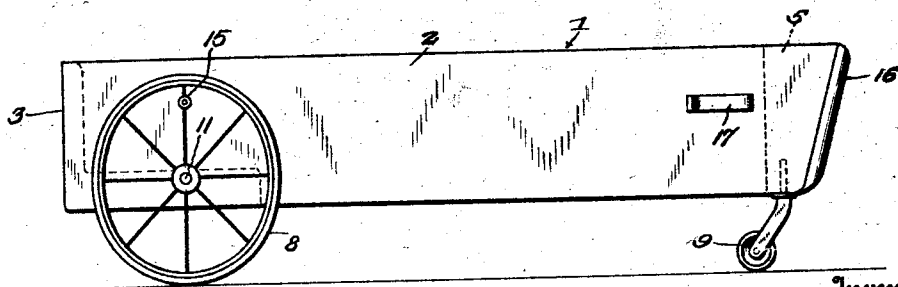


Fig. 3.

Inventor

E. D. Feddersen,

[Signature]

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ERLE D. FEDDERSEN, OF BELLE PLAINE, IOWA.

CHILD'S VEHICLE.

Application filed April 11, 1925. Serial No. 22,482.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERLE D. FEDDERSEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Belle Plaine, in the county of Benton and State of Iowa, have invented new and useful Improvements in Children's Vehicles, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to a child's vehicle.

The object of the present invention is to provide a simple, practical and inexpensive child's vehicle designed primarily to be constructed in the form of a flat bottom row boat and equipped with means for imparting to the body of the vehicle an up and down wave-like motion when the vehicle is propelled and adapted to be readily operated by a child to propel it forwardly and to guide it either to the right or left or to move it backwardly.

It is also an object of the invention to provide an attractive child's vehicle of this character which will be low hung so that the bottom of the body will be close to the supporting surface in order to reduce to a minimum any liability of the vehicle upsetting.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the claims hereto appended, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claims, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a child's vehicle constructed in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same.

Fig. 3 is a side elevation of a child's vehicle showing another form of the invention having the wheels arranged differently from that shown in Fig. 1.

In the accompanying drawing in which is illustrated the preferred embodiment of the invention the child's vehicle comprises in its construction a body 1 designed to be constructed of wood, sheet metal or a combination of the same and preferably in the form of a flat bottom row boat, though any other preferred form of body may be, of course, employed. The body is composed

of forwardly converging side walls 2, a transverse rear wall 3 and a bottom 4. The sides are connected together at their front and are braced by a tapering block or piece 5 of substantially pyramid form. The sides are illustrated in the accompanying drawing as constructed of straight pieces of material but they may be of any other desired configuration to impart the required shape to the body and they are preferably braced at the central portion by transverse bars or braces 6 arranged at the upper edges of the sides. The sides are also connected and braced at the rear portion by a seat 7 preferably cut away at the front edge to provide a central recess for the legs of the child so that the seat will be comfortable and fit the body of the child.

The body may be equipped with either 3 or 4 wheels as illustrated in the accompanying drawings. In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the body is provided intermediate of its ends with a pair of main wheels 8 and with front and rear castor wheels 9 and 10 located in advance and in the rear of the main wheels 8, and adapted to support either the front or rear portion of the body of the vehicle. The main wheels 8 are mounted on an axle 11 which extends through the sides 1 of the body above the bottom thereof to provide a low hung body having its bottom located close to the supporting surface and the main wheels 8 and the axle thereof form a fulcrum for the body to permit the same to tilt forwardly or rearwardly so that the body will be supported by the main wheels and the front castor wheel or the main wheels and the rear castor wheel. When the weight of the child is upon the seat and the body is supported by the main wheels 8 and the rear castor wheel 10, the front of the body will be slightly elevated above the supporting surface and will present somewhat the appearance of a canoe as the bow or front of the body will then be higher than the rear or stern of the same. The rear castor wheel 10 is provided with an inclined stem 12 preferably curved as shown and having a vertical spindle portion 13 of the ordinary construction forming a pivot for the castor wheel. The front castor wheel 9 is of substantially the same construction and is provided with a vertical pivot or spindle 14 which permits the wheel

to swing whereby the vehicle may be readily turned. The front and rear castor wheels are designed to be located centrally of the front and rear portions of the body, that is, midway between the sides thereof.

The main wheels which are designed to be located in rear of the center of the body, may of course, be placed in any desired position but preferably beyond the center and in order to impart a rising and falling movement to the body similar to a wave-like motion, the wheels 8 are substantially elliptical as shown but they may be of any lopsided formation and can be eccentrically arranged and of circular formation as will be readily understood. These main wheels are provided with knobs or handles 15 located between the center and the periphery adjacent to the rim of the said wheels 8 and adapted to be operated by the occupant of the vehicle for propelling the latter and by rotating one of the main wheels 8 faster than the other, the vehicle may be readily guided and turned either to the right or the left. The wheels may be of any preferred construction and both the main wheels 8 and the castor wheels are equipped with rubber tires so that the toy may be used either indoors or outdoors. Also in order to prevent furniture from being scratched or otherwise marred or injured the body is provided at the front and at the sides adjacent to the front with buffers 16 and 17 constructed of rubber and suitably secured to the body 1. The front buffer 16 extends downwardly from the top of the boat at the bow thereof and the side buffers 17 are arranged in a substantially horizontal position slightly in rear of the front buffer. By extending the axle 11 of the main wheels through the sides of the body, a simple and practical method of attaching the axle is provided and the axle will not become loose or detached from the body as is the case when the axle is fastened to the bottom of the body. By this method of construction the toy will be in practical workable condition for a longer time than is generally possible with wagons or similar toys having axles secured directly to the bottom of the body. When the toy is propelled forwardly the eccentric character of the main wheels causes the body to rise and fall and by turning one of the main wheels faster than the other the body may be readily guided in the desired direction. By this means the toy may be readily controlled by a small child and will be found to be attractive and amusing. The child may accomplish the propelling of the vehicle either by pulling or pushing on the main wheels which may or may not be provided with handles.

In Figure 3 of the drawing the body is equipped with a pair of main wheels and a

front castor wheel. In this form of the invention, the body does not have the tilting motion of the body shown in Figs. 1 and 2 where the body may be tilted by shifting the weight either forwardly or rearwardly to cause the front or the rear castor wheel to rest upon the supporting surface.

In the form of the invention illustrated in Fig. 3, the seat is slightly raised above the bottom of the boat shaped body and is in the form of a platform as clearly illustrated in dotted lines in the said figure, while in Figs. 1 and 2 a platform or portion is provided in advance of the part 7 and the occupant may either sit upon the part 7 or upon the low platform and have either a high or low seat. Any other form of seat may, of course, be provided.

What is claimed is:

1. A child's vehicle, comprising a body to receive a child, an axle, wheels mounted on the axle and having peripheral portions located at different distances from the axle to produce a rise and fall of the body when the same is propelled; said wheels being also provided on their exterior with operating means located between the axle and the rim, and a castor wheel spaced from the axle and located beneath the body.

2. A child's vehicle comprising a body having sides and a bottom and provided at the back with a seat; an axle extending through the sides above the bottom of the body, wheels mounted on the axle exteriorly of the body and having peripheral portions located at different distances from the axle to produce a rise and fall of the body when the same is propelled; said wheels being also provided on their exterior with operating means located between the axle and the rim and a castor wheel spaced from the axle and located beneath the body.

3. A child's vehicle comprising a body having sides and a bottom and provided at the back with a seat; an axle extending through the sides above the bottom of the body, wheels mounted on the axle exteriorly of the body and having peripheral portions located at different distances from the axle to produce a rise and fall of the body when the same is propelled; said wheels being also provided on their exterior with operating means located between the axle and the rim and front and rear castor wheels located in advance and in the rear of the said axle, the wheels of the latter forming a fulcrum for causing a tilting movement of the body so that the latter will be supported by the main wheels and one of the castor wheels.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

ERLE D. FEDDERSEN.