Oct. 1, 1935. B. F. STANNARD 2,015,974

TOY VEHICLE

Filed May 14, 1934

Fig. 1.

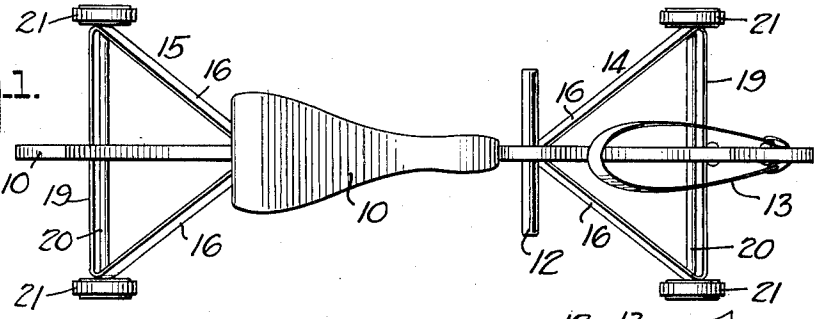


Fig. 2.

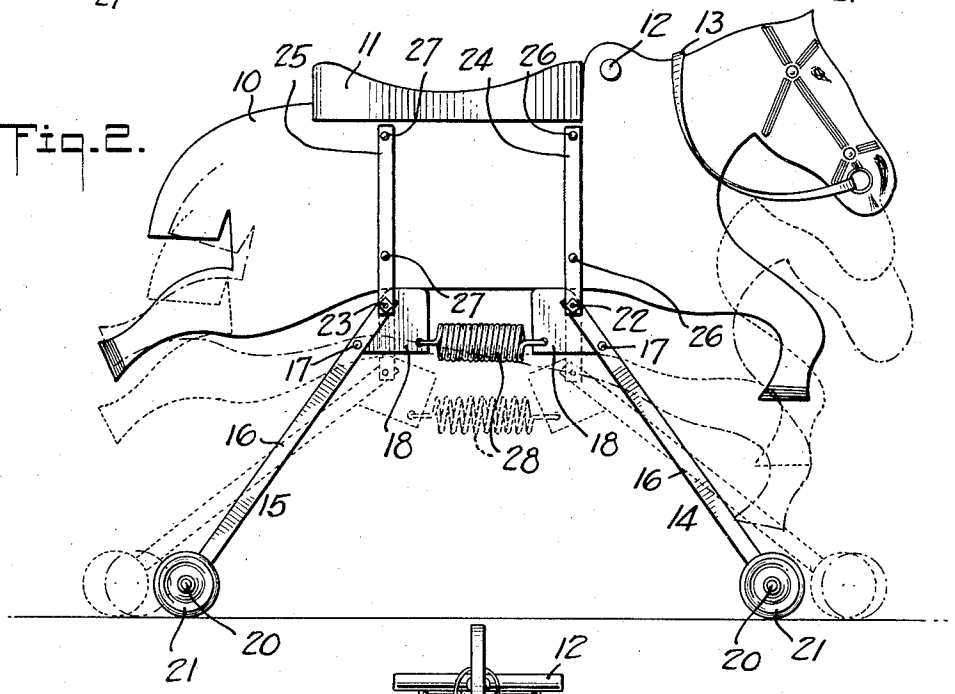
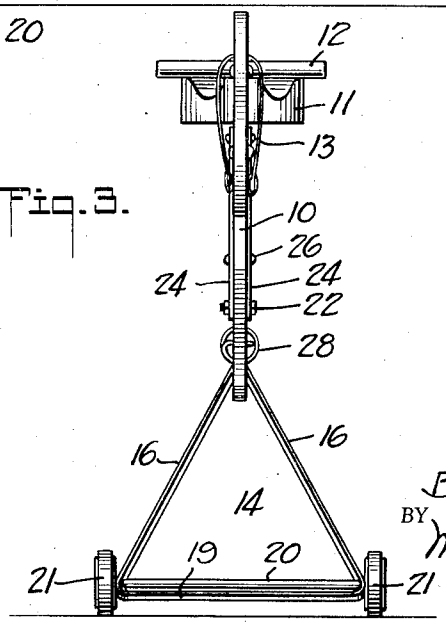


Fig. 3.



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1 Claim. (Cl. 272—53)

This invention relates to and has for an object the provision of a toy vehicle which in one of its many adaptations is constructed in simulation of a horse adapted to be ridden astride by a child and to have imparted thereto by various movements of the child, motions in simulation of galloping, bucking, rearing, etc., all to the end of providing amusement and healthful exercise for the child.

Another object of the invention is to provide a toy vehicle embodying a support for the operator, and a novel mounting means therefor by which the support can be moved over a surface and will yieldingly sustain the weight of the operator in such manner that by certain movements the operator can depress the support vertically and/or tilt the support in a fore-and-aft direction.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel construction and arrangement of elements as set forth in the following specification and particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawing,

Figure 1 is a plan view of the toy vehicle embodying this invention;

Figure 2 is a view of the toy vehicle in side elevation;

Figure 3 is a view of the toy vehicle in front elevation.

In its present embodiment, the toy vehicle comprises a support for an operator, in the form of a flat body 10, the outline of which simulates a horse. The surface of the body can be painted or otherwise marked to enhance its appearance and is provided with a seat 11 in simulation of a saddle, and with a handle bar 12 in advance of the seat, adapted to be gripped by the operator. A bridle 13 is also provided for use in lieu of the handle bar.

In conjunction with the support formed by the body 10, a novel mounting means is provided which includes front and rear members 14 and 15, respectively. These members are identical in construction in order to simplify manufacture, and each comprises a triangular frame, the side bars 16—16 of which are secured together at their free ends by a rivet 17 which passes through the bars and through a plate 18 interposed between the bars. The other ends of the bars 16—16 are connected by a cross bar 19; and adjacent the latter an axle 20 passes through the side bars and has wheels 21—21 mounted thereon at the outer sides of the side bars.

The mounting members 14 and 15 are fulcrumed on the body 10 at their upper ends by means of bolts 22 and 23, respectively, which pass through the side bars 16 and plate 18 of the respective members, and through bearing bars 24—25 vertically disposed at opposite sides of the body 10 and rigidly secured thereto by rivets 26 and 27, respectively.

The bearing bars 24 and 25 project a short distance below the bottom edge of the body 10 to receive the bolts, and it will be clear that by this construction the mounting members are connected to the body for pivotal movement about transverse axes located at points spaced apart a considerable distance in a fore-and-aft direction.

Co-acting with the mounting members 14 and 15 is a yieldable or resilient means in the form of a coil spring 28, the ends of which pass through suitable openings in the plates 18 of the respective members. The spring operatively connects the members and urges same towards each other relatively to the position shown in full lines in Figure 2, wherein the plates 18 abut the under edge of the body 10 to definitely limit such movement of the members under the action of the spring.

The operation of the invention is as follows:

Assuming that the vehicle is resting on a level surface and that the seat 11 is unoccupied, the spring 28 will co-act with the members 14 and 15 to sustain the body 10 in the fully elevated and substantially level position shown in full lines in Figure 2. When a child is astride the body 10, the body will be depressed against the action of the spring 28, and to an extent depending on the strength of the spring and the weight of the child. In response to jouncing movements or shifting of the child's weight forwardly or rearwardly, corresponding movements will be imparted to the body 10 as the spring 28 will yield to allow pivotal movements of the mounting members 14 and 15 about their respective axes of the body 10, all as shown in Figure 2. By working the feet against the surface on which the vehicle is resting, the child can propel himself as the body is caused to move vertically and/or tilt in a fore or aft direction in simulation of galloping, bucking and rearing movements of a horse, much to the enjoyment of the child. The device also provides healthful exercise and is otherwise beneficial to the child in enabling him to develop a sense of balance, so as to maintain himself in equilibrium on the vehicle.

What is claimed is:

A toy vehicle comprising a support consisting of a vertically disposed thin strip of material of

uniform thickness having bearing bars secured in front and rear pairs to the respective sides thereof; identical front and rear frame members each pivotally connected at its upper end to a respective pair of the aforementioned bearing bars; stop devices carried by said frame members and disposed to contact the lower edge of the support; and a spring for normally urging the frame members toward each other and the stop devices against said lower edge of said support.

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