Sept. 8, 1925. 1,553,219

H. B. CROSBY

TOY

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Fig. 1.

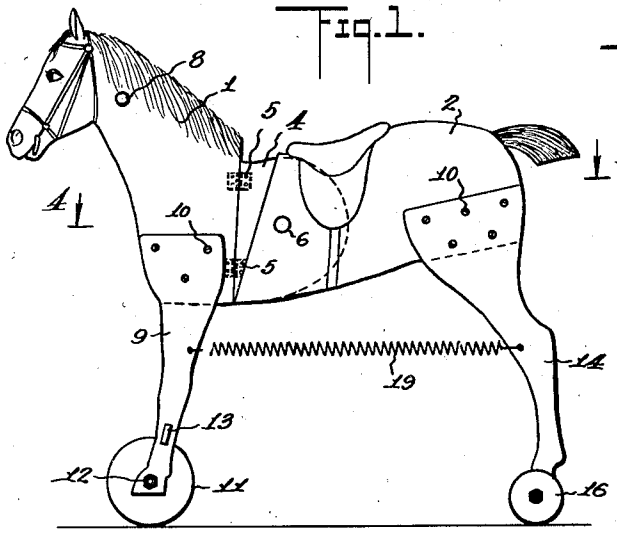


Fig. 3.

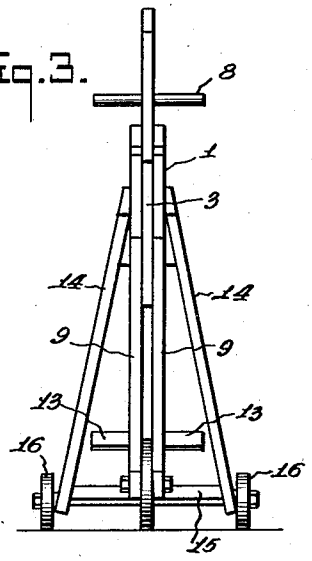


Fig. 2.

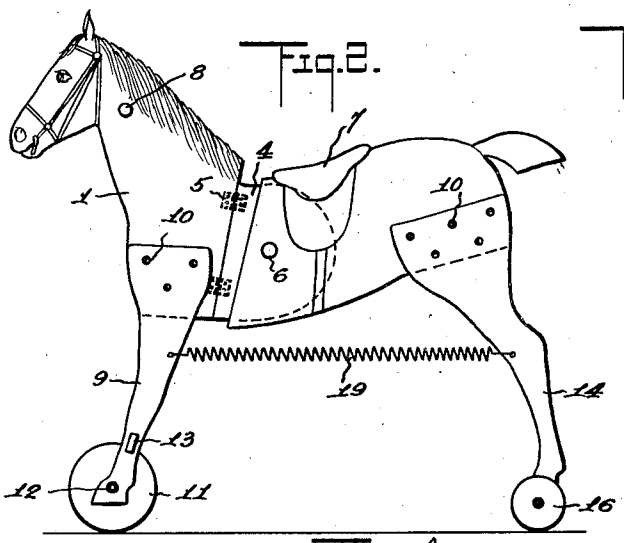


Fig. 5.

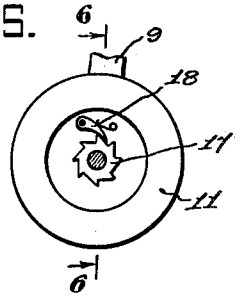


Fig. 6.

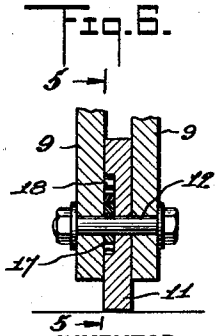
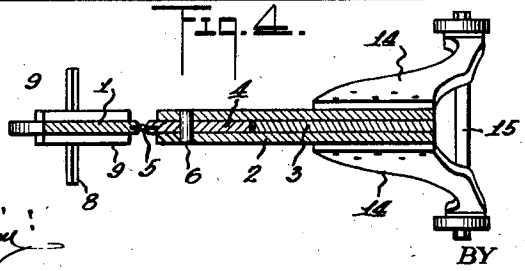


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARTWELL BROAD CROSBY, OF CALAIS, MAINE.

TOY.

Application filed February 20, 1924. Serial No. 694,123.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARTWELL B. CROSBY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Calais, in the county of Washington and State of Maine, have invented a new and Improved Toy, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to improvements in toys and more particularly to a toy horse although, of course, it is to be understood that the toy may be designed to represent any other animal or figure, and while I shall hereinafter refer to the device as a horse I do not wish to be limited in any way by this choice of term.

An object of the invention is to provide a toy in which the rider can propel the same by causing a movement of one portion of the body of the toy relative to the other.

A further object is to provide a toy of this character which may be guided in any direction, which will simulate in its operation a canter or gallop so that the rider can give full vent to his imagination as he propels the toy over the floor.

A further object is to provide a toy of this character which can be manufactured and sold at a reasonably low price, which will be neat and attractive in appearance, and which will most efficiently perform the function for which it is intended.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations and arrangements of parts which will be more fully hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation, showing my improved toy in its normal or initial position;

Figure 2 is a similar view showing the toy in another position;

Figure 3 is a view in front elevation of the toy;

Figure 4 is a view in longitudinal section on the line 4—4 of Figure 1;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary view illustrating the ratchet and pawl connection between one of the wheels and a leg of the toy, this view being taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 6;

Figure 6 is a view in section at right angles to Figure 5, the view being taken on the line 6—6 thereof.

As above stated, my improved toy in one of its embodiments simulates a horse in appearance, and this term is conveniently employed in describing the toy. The body portion of the horse is divided into two sections, the section 1 constituting the front portion of the body and the section 2 the rear portion thereof. These sections 1 and 2 are both preferably made from boards of wood although, of course, they may be made of any other suitable material.

The front section 1 is provided with a rearwardly projecting tongue 4 which is connected thereto by hinges 5 to permit the front portion of the toy to swing in either direction to steer the device. The rear section 2 has a filler piece 3 throughout its rear portion thus providing a bifurcated front portion in which the tongue 4 is received and is pivotally connected by a transverse pivot pin 6 which extends through the rear body portion 2 as well as through the tongue 4 to allow the front and rear body portions a pivotal movement relative to each other, as will more fully hereinafter appear. A seat or saddle 7 is provided on the rear body portion 2 and a transversely extending handle 8 is secured in the front section 1, as clearly shown. The front section 1 is supported by a pair of legs 9 which are secured thereto by screws 10 or other suitable securing devices, and these legs 9 at their lower end are supported by a wheel 11, an axle or bolt 12 being projected through the legs 9 and wheel 11 and held in place in any approved manner. Foot rests 13 are secured to the legs 9 and project laterally therefrom so that the rider on the saddle 7 can brace his feet on these rests 13 as he grasps the handle 8 to operate the toy, as will be hereinafter explained. A pair of legs 14 support the rear section 2 and are preferably flared apart at their lower ends and connected by an axle bar 15 with a pair of wheels 16 at the ends thereof so that the toy is in the form of a tricycle with the rear wheels spread apart sufficiently to prevent accidental tilting of the toy. The front wheel 11 and at least one of the rear wheels 16 is connected to the leg supported thereby by ratchet and pawl, as indicated most clearly in Figures 5 and 6. The purpose of this ratchet and pawl connection is to permit the wheels to turn in one direction only which is desirable in order to provide an effectual propelling means. A simple form of construction is illustrated in which the

ratchet wheel 17 is fixedly connected to the wheel and the spring-pressed pawl is carried by the leg of the toy. Hence, the motion of the leg relative to the wheel will cause a turning action in one direction and will freely pivot in the other direction. A relatively strong coil spring 19 connects the front and rear legs 9 and 14, respectively, and sustains the toy in normal position and assists in returning it to such position during the operation of the device.

With the rider on the seat 7, he can grasp the handle 8 and brace his feet against the supports 13. While in this position he can readily rock the front section 1 of the body relative to the rear section 2, the motion being about the pivot 6, so that the lower ends of the legs 9 and 14 will be drawn toward each other and then away from each other, simulating the motion of a cantering or galloping horse. This motion of the body and legs of the horse is imparted to the wheels by the ratchet and pawl construction above described so that the toy is propelled over the ground or floor and can be steered to right or left by turning the front section 1 of the body with relation to the rear section 2 thereof, the hinges 5 permitting this movement.

Various slight changes and alterations might be made in the general form of the parts described without departing from my invention, and hence I do not limit myself to the precise details set forth but consider myself at liberty to make such slight changes and alterations as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A toy of the character described, comprising a body consisting of two sections pivotally connected both horizontally and vertically, legs secured to the two sections, a pair of wheels supporting the legs of the rear section, a single wheel supporting the legs of the front section, said last-mentioned wheel and one of said first-mentioned wheels having ratchet and pawl connection with the parts supported thereby, foot supports on the front legs of the toy and a handlebar at the upper portion of the front section of the toy, the rear section of the toy constituting a support for the body so that when the operator is seated on the rear section he can by manipulation of the foot supports and the handlebar move the front section relative to the rear section to impart motion and direction of motion to the toy.

2. A toy of the character described, comprising a body consisting of two sections pivotally connected both horizontally and vertically, legs secured to the two sections, a pair of wheels supporting the legs of the rear section, a single wheel supporting the legs of the front section, said last-mentioned wheel and one of said first-mentioned wheels having ratchet and pawl connection with the parts supported thereby, foot supports on the front legs of the toy and a handlebar at the upper portion of the front section of the toy, the rear section of the toy constituting a support for the body so that when the operator is seated on the rear section he can by manipulation of the foot supports and the handlebar move the front section relative to the rear section to impart motion and direction of motion to the toy, and a spring connecting the front and rear legs of the toy.

HARTWELL BROAD CROSBY.