No. 853,091. PATENTED MAY 7, 1907.

W. KLINGE.

TOY.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 6, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

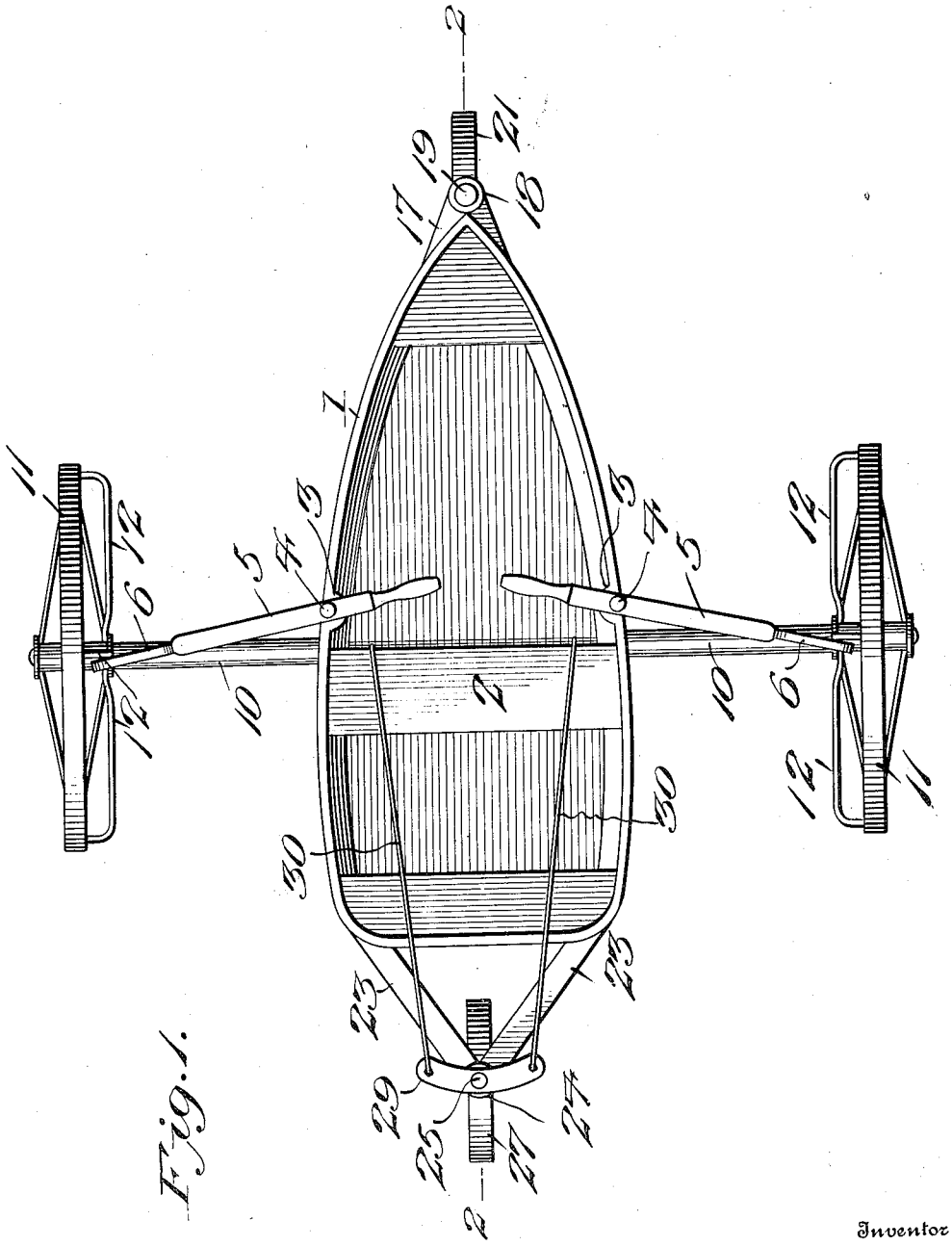


Fig. 1.

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Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

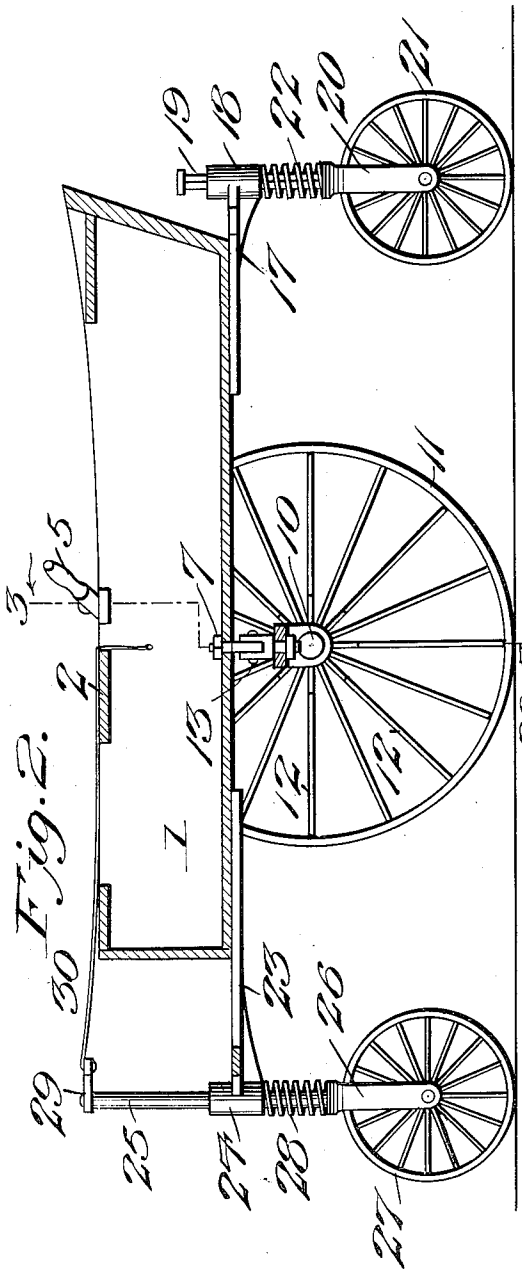


Fig. 2.

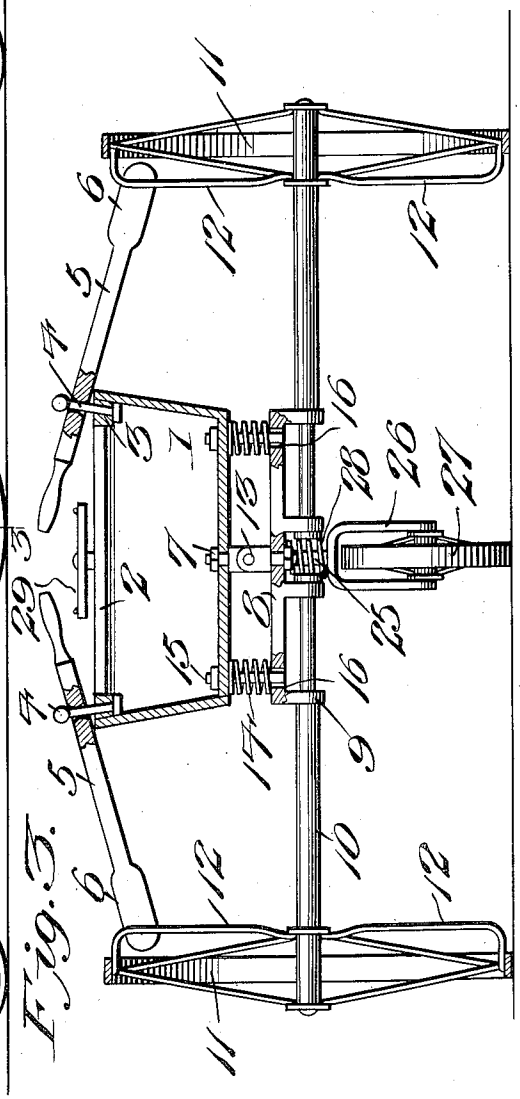


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM KLINGE, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

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No. 853,091. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 7, 1907.

Application filed June 6, 1906. Serial No. 320,461.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM KLINGE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Toys, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to toys and embodies in its organization a boat-like body sustained upon transporting wheels and adapted to be propelled manually over the ground through the medium of pivoted propelling members or oars arranged to act upon and for operating the transporting wheels.

The invention has for its objects to provide a comparatively simple, inexpensive device of this character which aside from its amusing qualities will afford healthful exercise, one wherein an effective and desirable substitute for rowing is acquired, and one in which the direction of movements of the body may be governed through the medium of the propelling members as in the operation of advancing, backing or turning the boat.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of this character wherein the body is yieldably sustained for fore and aft or transverse oscillation, and one in which the device may be conveniently steered for properly directing the same in its travel.

With these and other objects in view, the invention comprises the novel features of construction and combination of parts more fully hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a top plan view of a toy boat embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical, longitudinal section taken centrally through the device on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates the body of the device, preferably made in imitation of a boat, as shown, and provided adjacent its longitudinal center with a seat 2 and having at a point in advance of the latter inturned bearing ears 3, there being pivoted to the body 1 by means of pivoting members or pins 4 engaged with the ears 3 a pair of propelling members or oars provided at their outer ends with engaging portions or blades 6 and having loose engagement with the pins 4 to adapt them for both vertical and horizontal swinging movement for a purpose which will presently appear.

Connected beneath the body 1 by means of a central vertical coupling member 7 is a horizontal transversely disposed bearing member or yoke 8 having vertical, depending bearing ears 9 in which are journaled the inner ends of a pair of shaft sections 10 disposed in endwise relation and in axial alinement and provided at their outer ends with transporting wheels 11 provided at their inner faces with projecting engaging portions or ratchets 12, preferably formed by appropriately bending the alternate spokes into shape, as shown. The member 7 is composed of a pair of sections pivotally connected at 13 to permit transverse rocking of the body 1, which is sustained at opposite sides by means of cushioning springs 14 coiled around vertically depending guide members or bolts 15 fixed to the bottom and adapted to play vertically through guide openings 16 provided in the yoke 8.

The body 1 is provided at its forward end with a forwardly projecting horizontal bracket 17 having a vertical, tubular depending head 18, in which is slidably disposed the vertical post or stem 19 of a fork 20 in which is journaled a caster wheel 21, there being arranged on the stem 19 between the fork 20 and head 18 a compressible cushioning spring 22, while projecting rearwardly from the body is a pair of horizontal bracket arms 23 carrying a vertical, tubular bearing head 24 in which is slidably and rotatably disposed the vertical stem or post 25 of a fork 26 having journaled therein a caster wheel 27, there being arranged on the stem 25 between the fork 26 and head 24 a compressible cushioning spring 28 which together with the spring 22 provides for fore and aft rocking movement of the body.

Fixed on the upper end of the post or stem 25, hereinafter termed the steering post, is a cross arm 29 with which is engaged a pair of flexible steering elements or ropes 30 leading to the seat 2 and adapted to be operated for turning the wheel 27 to guide the device in its travel over the ground.

In practice, the operator sits on the seat 2, facing toward the forward end or bow of the body 1, and manipulates the members or oars 5 in the usual manner, as in the operation of rowing. The propelling members in action engage the projecting portions or ratchets 12 for forcibly driving the wheels to propel the device over the ground, it being understood that in stroking the oars the blades 6 will, during rearward movement, be elevated

above the wheels to clear the ratchet spokes 12, and further, that as the device advances one or other of the elements 30 may be manipulated for properly turning the steering post 25 and the wheel 27 carried thereby to guide the device in its travel. It is apparent that the oar 5 may be manipulated for effecting the operations of backing or turning the device as in the operations of rowing, and further that the body may rock fore and aft or transversely in simulation of the movements of a boat.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In a device of the class described, a body sustained upon transporting wheels having spokes shaped to provide projections on the inner faces of the wheels, and propelling members pivotally connected with the body and adapted in operation for engagement with the projections to drive the wheels.

2. In a device of the class described, a body, transporting wheels therefor adapted for independent rotation and provided with projecting engaging portions, and propelling members pivotally connected with the body for vertical and horizontal swinging movement, said members being adapted for engagement with the projections to propel the device.

3. In a device of the class described, a body, transporting wheels therefor provided with projections, propelling members pivotally connected with the body for vertical and horizontal swinging movement, said members being adapted for engagement with and to act on the projections for propelling the device, and a steering wheel sustained at one end of the body and operable for guiding the latter in its movements.

4. In a device of the class described, a body, a bearing yoke connected beneath the body, axles journaled for independent rotation in the yoke and equipped with transporting wheels having projecting engaging portions, cushioning springs disposed between the body and yoke, propelling members pivotally connected with the body and adapted to act upon the projections in the operation of propelling the device, caster wheels connected at opposite ends of the body, one of said wheels being adapted for operation to guide the device in its travel, and cushioning springs arranged for yieldably supporting the body at its ends.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM KLINGE.

Witnesses:
JOHN L. FLETCHER,
FABIUS S. ELMORE.