Aug. 30, 1938. R. SHIPPEE ET AL 2,128,435

TOY

Filed Jan. 5, 1938

Fig. 1.

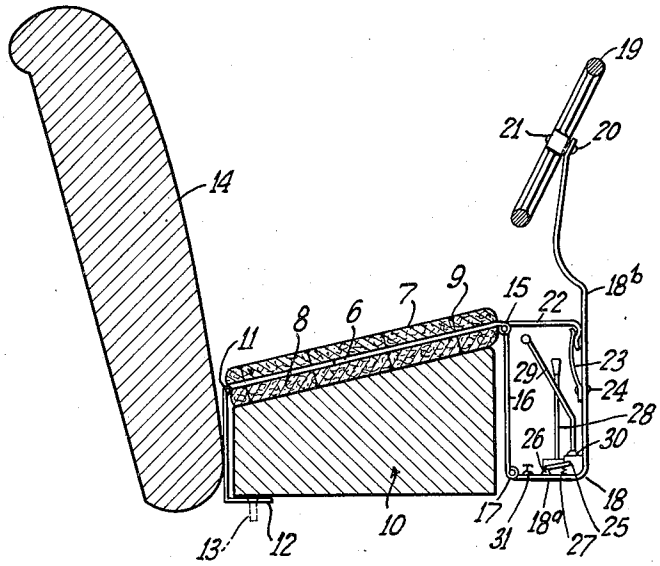


Fig. 3.

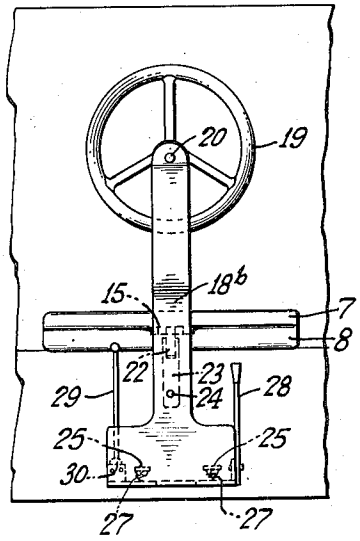
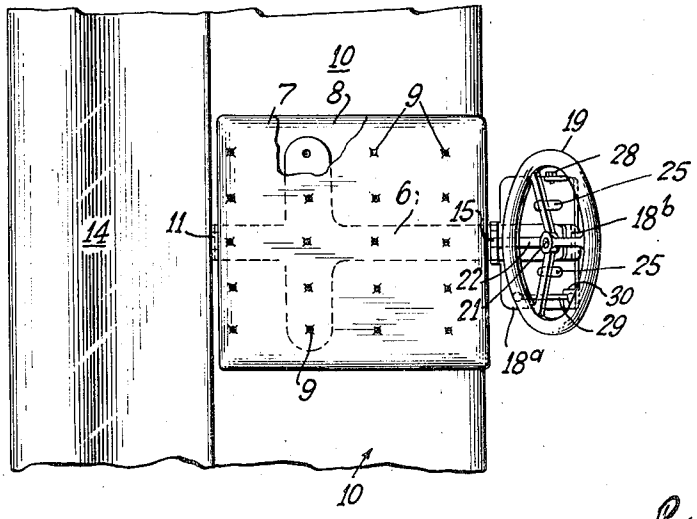


Fig. 2.



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TOY

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10 Claims. (Cl. 46—1)

This invention relates to toys and more particularly to toys comprising a mechanical representation of automobile steering apparatus.

One of the chief objects of the invention is to provide a toy of the above mentioned type which may be mounted on or attached to any seat of an automobile or to a chair or sofa in a house.

Another object is to provide a toy of the above type, equipped with a full dummy set of automobile control apparatus.

A further object is to provide a toy of the above type which will be collapsible for the sake of convenience and also to insure a child against injury from a sudden stop when using the toy in an automobile.

Other objects will appear from what follows:

One embodiment of the invention will now be described, as a non-limiting example, with reference to the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a sectional view, partly in elevation, of a typical embodiment of the device;

Fig. 2 is a plan view; and

Fig. 3 is a front view.

What may be called the base of the device comprises the plate 6, of suitable sheet metal, which is preferably provided with pads 7 and 8 forming a seat for the child. Plate 6 may be of any suitable design besides the T-shape indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 2. These pads may be made of felt, rubber, or any other material suitable for forming a seat. Plate 6 and pads 7 and 8 are preferably secured together by means such as the tacking 9. In order to secure the device to a cushion 10 of an auto or other seat, plate 6 is provided by means of a hinge 11 with a hook 12 designed to engage the cushion approximately as shown in Fig. 1. In some cases it may be desirable to secure hook 12 to the floor by means such as bolt 13. The back of the seat is indicated at 14.

To the front of plate 6 is secured, by means of hinge 15, a downwardly extending piece 16 of suitable sheet metal. Secured by another hinge 17 is member 18 which is preferably made of a single piece of suitable springy sheet metal and is curved at 18 to form the horizontal portion 18*a* and the upright portion 18*b*. Part 18*a* should be of sufficient depth to accommodate the feet of a child and of sufficient width to serve as a floor and base whereon may be mounted the dummy pedals and other such devices hereinafter described. Obviously, in some modifications of the device it would be desirable to widen both members 6 and 16 and to use more than one hinge at points 15 and 17.

At the top of part 18*b* is rotatably mounted steering wheel 19 by means of stud 20. The hub of wheel 19 will preferably carry a horn button 21 connected to some simple form of horn, not shown. Obviously the design of the wheel may be varied at will.

To secure the device in operative position there is provided a latch 22, hinged to plate 6 at 15, and engaging a stiff spring 23, mounted on part 18*b* by means such as rivet 24. The locking means serves also as a safety device, for in the event of a sudden stopping of a car in which the device is being used, if the child is thrown against wheel 19, spring 23 will release latch 22 when the child is thrown forward, and thus will ease the shock. If member 18 is of sufficiently springy material, an eyelet may be substituted for spring 23, in which case wheel 19 will serve as a means for holding the child in the seat of an automobile but at the same time will yield sufficiently to cushion him against shock from a sudden stop. As an alternative construction there might be a pair of latches 22, set one at each side of the device, in which case the child could pretend they were the doors of a car. In place of mere latches in this last construction, imitation doors could be used, hinged to member 16 and latching on member 18*b*.

In order to make the toy as nearly like a real automobile as possible, a complete set of dummy pedals, etc. may be provided. Those shown in the drawing are intended to serve as suggestions. A pair of pedals 25 may be pivotally mounted at 26 on part 18*a* and provided each with a spring 27 tensioned to offer substantial resistance to the "operator's" foot. A brake lever 28 may be provided by means of any suitable pivotal mounting and equipped with some form of ratchet device to simulate the action of real brake lever. A dummy gear shift lever 29 may also be provided. A suitable mounting for the latter would be a ball and socket joint 30, mounted on part 18*a*, and which may obviously be so constructed, as by means of suitable slots in the socket, as to simulate the action of a gear shift lever on a real automobile. A dummy self-starter button 31 may also be provided, attached to any simple mechanism for making a whirring or other appropriate noise. Obviously also, member 18*b* can be so designed as to resemble an automobile dashboard, with dummy meters of various kinds.

The invention has been described as applied to a representation of automobile steering apparatus, but obviously it might take other forms. The basic structure of the invention is particularly

adaptable to simulate the controls of an airplane, as well as those of a motorboat, ship, or many other wheel-controlled or guiding machines, and the term "automobile" in the claims is to be so understood.

Having described our invention, what we claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. As an article of manufacture, a toy comprising a dummy wheel resembling the steering wheel of an automobile, mounting means for said wheel, a seat member adapted to be mounted on any cushion or chair, and means permanently connecting said mounting means and said seat member.

2. As an article of manufacture, a toy comprising a dummy wheel resembling the steering wheel of an automobile, mounting means for said wheel, seat attaching means adapted to be mounted on any cushion or chair, seat means covering said attaching means, and means connecting said mounting means and said seat means.

3. As an article of manufacture, a toy comprising a dummy wheel resembling the steering wheel of an automobile, mounting means for said wheel, seat means comprising a metal plate, padding means for said plate, and hinged connections between said plate and said mounting means.

4. As an article of manufacture, a toy comprising a dummy wheel resembling the steering wheel of an automobile, mounting means for said wheel, seat means comprising a metal plate, padding means for said plate, means for securing said seat means on any chair or cushion, and hinged connections between said plate and said mounting means.

5. As an article of manufacture, a toy comprising a dummy wheel resembling the steering wheel of an automobile, mounting means for said wheel, seat means comprising a metal plate, padding means for said plate, means for securing said seat means on any chair or cushion, hinged connections between said plate and said mounting means, and means for locking said mounting means in substantially upright position.

6. A child's toy comprising, seat means comprising a metal plate and padding means for said plate; hook means for securing said seat means on a cushion; horizontal and vertical frame members; flexible connecting means between said frame members and said seat means; and a wheel rotatably mounted on said vertical frame member.

7. A child's toy comprising, seat means comprising a metal plate and padding means for said plate; hook means for securing said seat means on a cushion; horizontal and vertical frame members; flexible connecting means between said frame members and said seat means; a wheel rotatably mounted on said vertical frame member; and means for locking said frame members in rigid position with respect to said seat means, said locking means being automatically releasable responsively to sudden pressure against said frame members.

8. A child's toy comprising, seat means comprising a metal plate and padding means for said plate; hook means for securing said seat means on a cushion; horizontal and vertical frame members; flexible connecting means between said frame members and said seat means; a wheel rotatably mounted on said vertical frame member, and dummy automobile control apparatus suitably mounted on said frame members.

9. A toy comprising, a seat member, horizontal and vertical frame members, a wheel mounted on said vertical frame member, a second vertical frame member, and hinged connections between said seat member and said last named vertical frame member and between said last named vertical frame member and said horizontal frame member.

10. A toy comprising; a seat, a downwardly-extending sheet metal member hinged to the front of said seat, a frame comprising horizontal and vertical members formed from another single piece of sheet metal, a dummy steering wheel rotatably mounted on the top of said vertical frame member, said horizontal frame member being hinged to the lower edge of said downwardly-extending member, and means for locking said first named vertical frame member in rigid position with respect to said seat member.

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