Jan. 13, 1931. H. HARPER 1,788,869

WHIRLIGIG TOY

Filed March 10, 1930

Fig. 1.

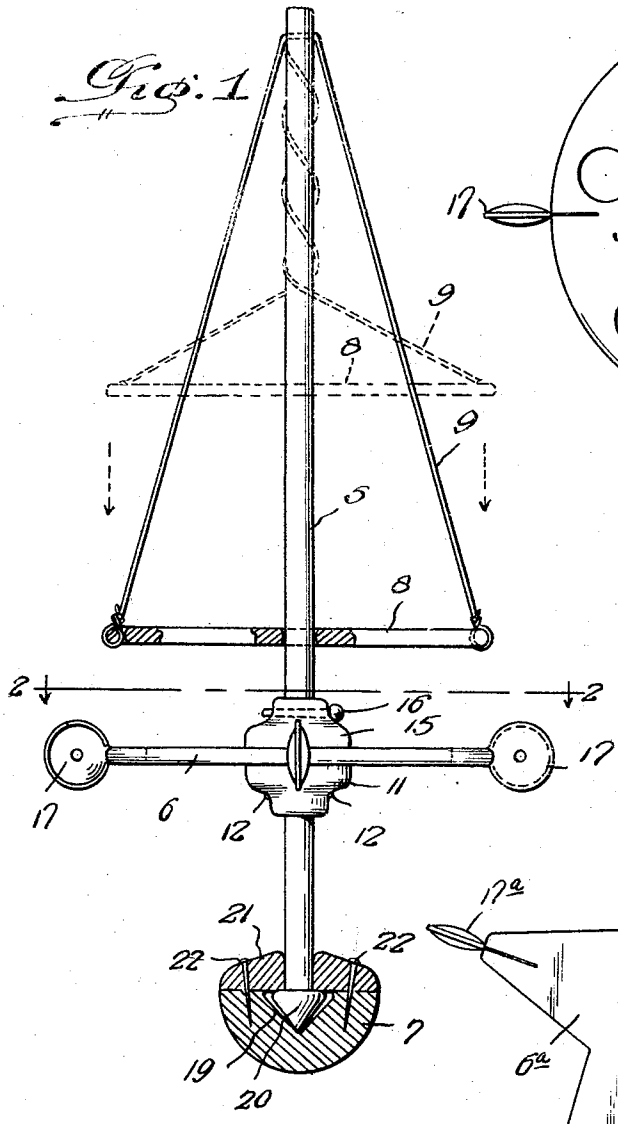


Fig. 2.

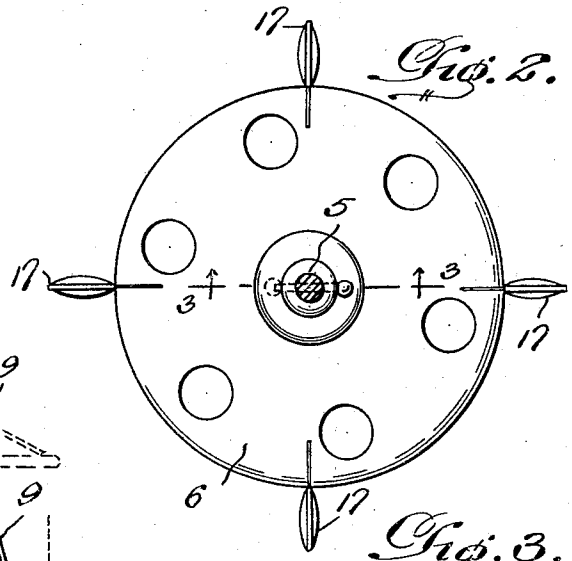


Fig. 3.

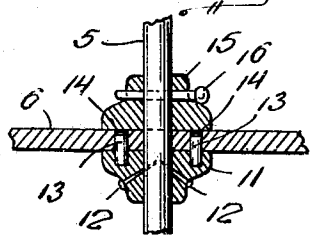


Fig. 5.

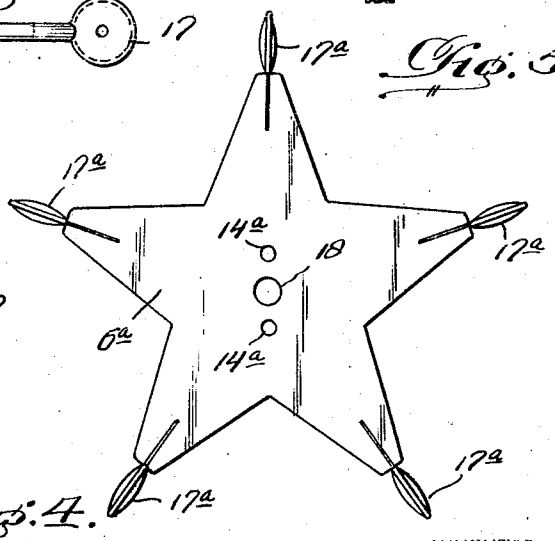
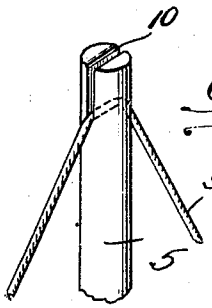


Fig. 4.



INVENTOR.
Henry Harper
BY J. Stanley Burch
ATTORNEY.

Patented Jan. 13, 1931 1,788,869

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

HENRY HARPER, OF SALEM, SOUTH CAROLINA

WHIRLIGIG TOY

Application filed March 10, 1930. Serial No. 434,608.

This invention relates to an improved whirligig toy of the type embodying a vertical spinning shaft having an ornamental wheel secured thereon to spin therewith, the spinning of the shaft and wheel being effected by means of a cross member slidable on the shaft above the wheel, and a cord connected at its ends to the opposite ends of said cross member and having its intermediate portion connected to the top of the shaft.

An object of the present invention is to provide a toy of the above kind wherein the wheel, the cord and the cross member may be readily removed from and applied to the shaft to permit one form of wheel to be substituted for another, thereby increasing the field of amusement afforded by the toy.

Another object is to provide a toy of the above kind which is simple and durable in construction, and economical to manufacture.

A further object is to provide a knob or handle in which the spinning shaft is journaled and retained in a simple and efficient manner, and whereby the toy may be readily held in one hand while manipulating the cross member with the other hand.

The invention consists in the novel form, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawing, and claimed.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a view, partly in side elevation and partly in section, of a whirligig toy embodying the present invention.

Figure 2 is a horizontal section on line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary vertical section on line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary perspective view showing the upper end of the spinning shaft and the adjacent portion of the cord; and

Figure 5 is a plan view of a modified form of spinning wheel.

Referring in detail to the drawing, 5 indicates an elongated spinning shaft having an ornamental wheel 6 secured thereon, the lower end of the shaft 5 being journaled and retained in a knob 7 by which the toy is held in one hand. Slidable on the shaft 5 above the wheel 6 is a cross member 8, and attached to the opposite ends of the cross member 8 are the ends of a cord 9 whose intermediate portion is connected to the top of the shaft 5.

As shown in Figure 4, the shaft 5 has a longitudinal slot 10 in its upper end in which the intermediate portion of the cord 9 is removably but frictionally engaged. Thus, by forcibly disengaging the cord from slot 10, the cross member 8 may be slid upwardly and removed from the shaft 5 with the cord. The wheel 6 rests on a collar 11 which is permanently fastened on the shaft 5 by means of tacks 12, or the like. Projecting upwardly from the collar 11 are pins 13 adapted to removably enter openings 14 in the central portion of the wheel 6 to key said wheel to the shaft 5 for spinning therewith. A further collar 15 is removably disposed on the shaft 5 and held by a cross pin 16 upon the wheel 6 to secure it upon the collar 11. Thus, after removal of the cross member 8 and cord 9, the collar 15 and wheel 6 may be slid upwardly off of the shaft 5 to permit a different form of wheel to be placed on the shaft in place of the wheel 6. The wheel 6 is shown in the form of an apertured disk having projecting peripheral whistles 17 attached thereto and adapted to be sounded by the action of the air when the wheel is caused to spin back and forth in the usual way by alternately pulling downwardly upon and releasing the cross member 8, after the cord 9 is initially wound on the shaft 5. A form of wheel which may be substituted for the wheel 6 is shown in Figure 5, the same being in the nature of a star wheel 6*a* having whistles 17*a* attached to the points thereof, and provided with a central opening 18 to receive the shaft 5 and apertures 14*a* to receive the pins 13.

The knob 7 embodies a lower member having a conical socket 19 in the top thereof within which is seated a conical enlarged head 20 formed on the lower end of the shaft 5, thus providing a simple and efficient end thrust bearing for said shaft in the knob 7. The knob 7 further embodies a top member 21 fitted on the shaft 5 and fastened upon the lower member of the knob by tacks 22 or the like so as to engage the head 20 and

permanently connect the shaft 5 and knob 7 together.

It will thus be seen that I have provided a construction which is simple and inexpensive to manufacture, and by which the desired objects are attained in a facile manner. Minor changes are contemplated within the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

What I claim as new is:

1. In a whirligig toy of the character described, a knob embodying a lower member having a conical socket in the top thereof, a vertical spinning shaft having an enlarged conical head at its lower end journaled in said socket, said knob further embodying an upper member secured to the lower member thereof and engaging the head on the lower end of said spinning shaft to connect the latter and the knob together, a wheel fixed on said shaft, a cross member freely slidable on the shaft above said wheel, and a flexible cord connected at its ends to the opposite ends of said cross member and having its intermediate portion connected to the top of said shaft.

2. In a whirligig toy of the character described, a base, a vertical spinning shaft having its lower end journaled in said base and provided with a longitudinal slot in the upper end thereof, a cross member freely slidable on the shaft, a flexible cord connected at its ends to the opposite ends of the cross member and having its intermediate portion frictionally and detachably engaged in the slot in the upper end of the shaft, a collar fixed on the shaft below the cross member, a wheel detachably secured on said collar, and means connecting the wheel to said collar for turning with the latter and the shaft when the latter is caused to spin, said wheel and the cross member and the cord being upwardly removable from the shaft.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HENRY HARPER.