May 22, 1951 J. A. NOTTO 2,553,670

CHILD'S FURNITURE

Filed March 27, 1946 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

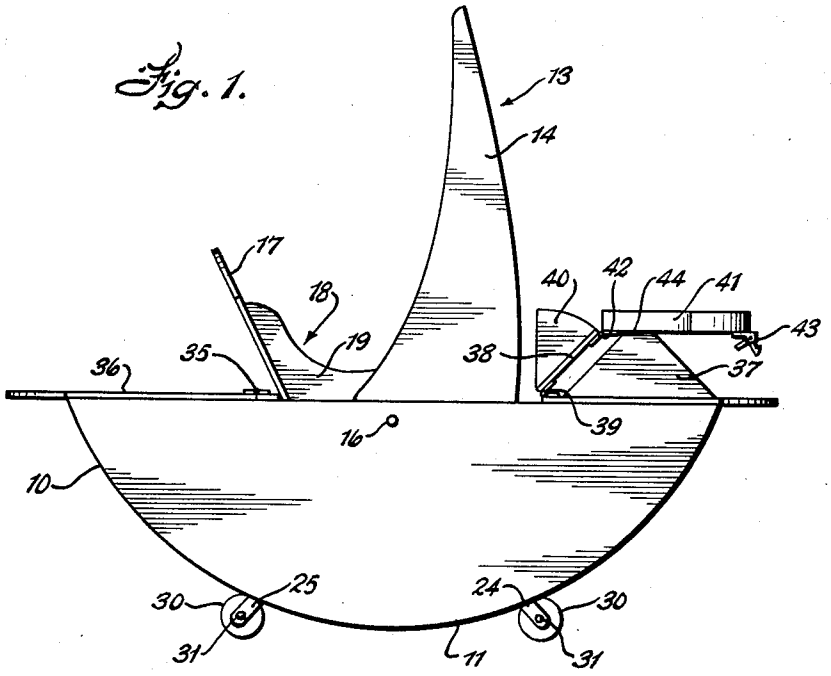
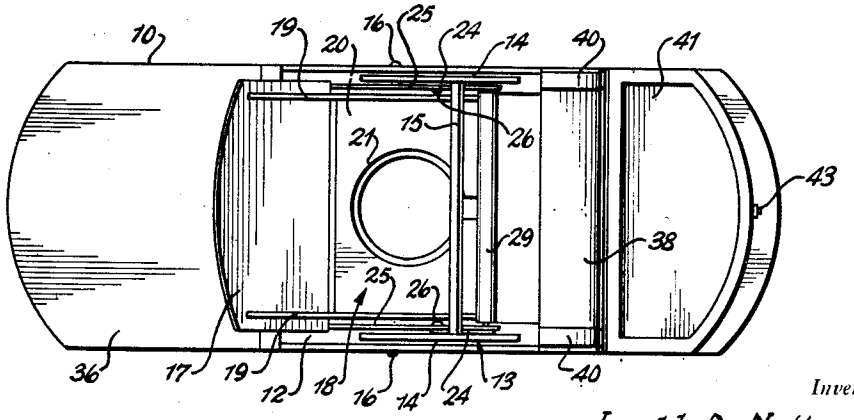


Fig. 2.



Inventor

Joseph A. Notto.

By Clarence A. O'Brien and Harvey B. Jacobson

Attorneys

May 22, 1951 J. A. NOTTO 2,553,670

CHILD'S FURNITURE

Filed March 27, 1946 3 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 3.

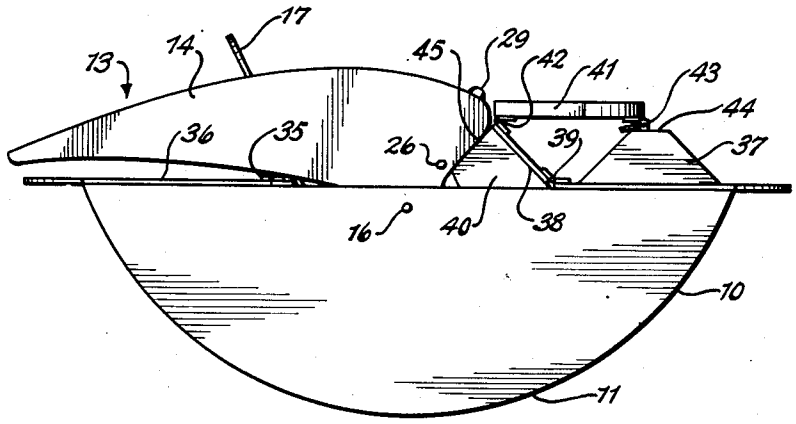


Fig. 4.

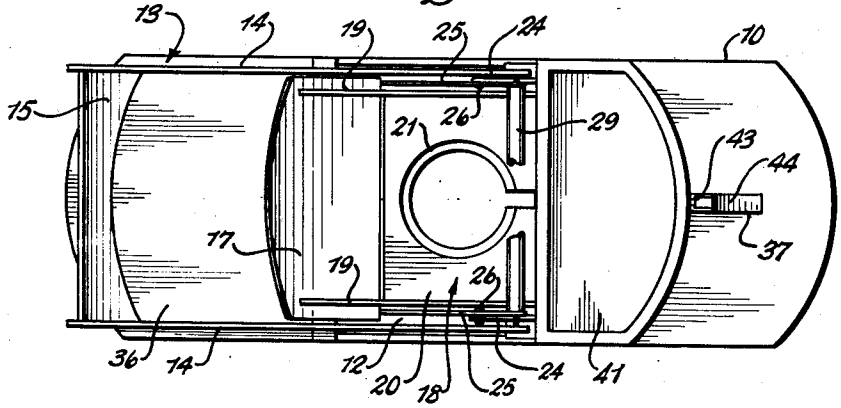
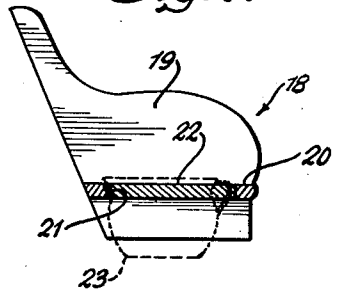


Fig. 7.



Inventor

Joseph A. Notto.

By Clarence A. O'Brien and Harvey B. Jacobson

Attorneys

May 22, 1951 J. A. NOTTO 2,553,670

CHILD'S FURNITURE

Filed March 27, 1946 3 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 5.

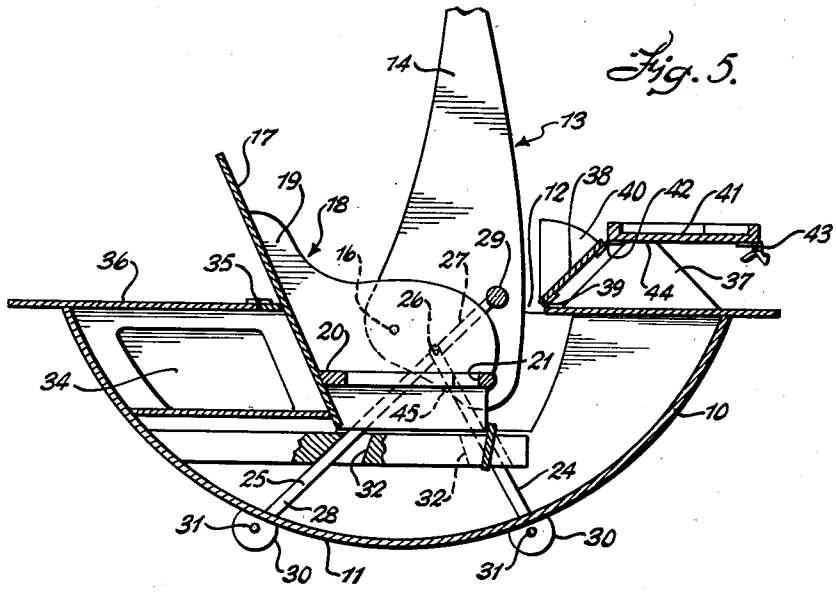
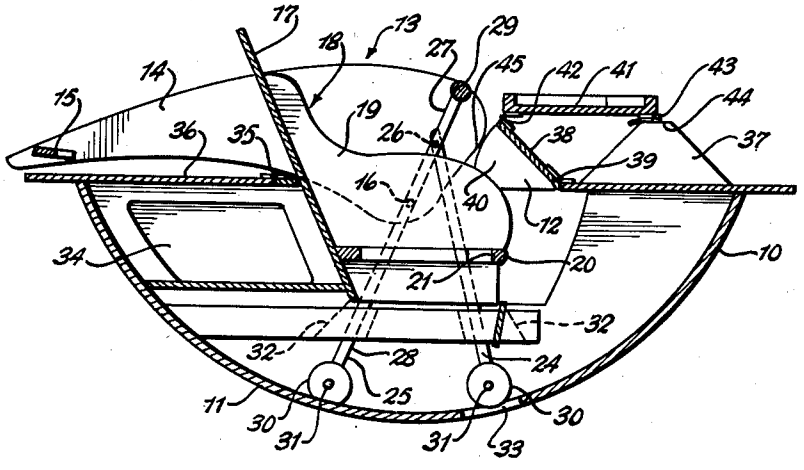


Fig. 6.



Inventor

Joseph A. Notto.

By Clarence A. O'Brien and Harvey B. Jacobson

Attorneys

Patented May 22, 1951 2,553,670

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,553,670

CHILD'S FURNITURE

Joseph A. Notto, Malden, Mass., assignor, by mesne assignments, to Rockaboat Inc., a corporation of Massachusetts

Application March 27, 1946, Serial No. 657,468

2 Claims. (Cl. 155—41)

1

This invention relates to new and useful improvements and structural refinements in child's furniture, and the principal object of the invention is to provide a device of the character herein described, which in effect, is a combination of several distinct articles of furniture, associated in such manner as to provide a structure of high utility, novel appearance, and well adapted for the purpose for which it is intended.

Generally speaking, the invention embodies in its construction a boat shaped body normally resting on rockers, and equipped with a suitable seat and with a handle simulating the appearance of a sail. The body is also provided with retractible wheels, which may be readily projected into running position by manipulating the sail, thus facilitating the use of the invention as a go-cart. A service tray, such as may be used during meals and as a playboard for toys, is also attached to the body, this tray co-acting with the sail to form a safety device, so to speak, for retaining the occupant in the seat during the rocking of the body. The seat itself is provided with a removable cover which may be readily substituted by a training chamber and the body is also equipped with an easily accessible compartment for storing the chamber when the same is not in use.

The general utility of the invention will be clearly apparent from the foregoing outline and in designing the device as a whole, emphasis has been placed primarily on the safety of construction and secondly, on comfort and convenience for both the child and the attendant.

A further object of the invention is to provide child's furniture which is simple in construction and which cannot easily become damaged.

An additional object of the invention is to provide child's furniture which will readily lend itself to economical manufacture.

With the above more important objects in view, and such other objects as may become apparent as this specification proceeds, the invention consists essentially of the arrangement and construction of parts as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the invention, showing the same in readiness for use as a go-cart.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the subject shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a further side elevation of the invention, but showing the same in position for use as a rocker.

2

Figure 4 is a top plan view of the subject shown in Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a longitudinal, cross-sectional view of the device shown in Figure 1.

Figure 6 is a longitudinal, cross-sectional view of the device shown in Figure 3, and

Figure 7 is a cross-sectional view of the removable seat assembly used in the invention.

Like characters of reference are used to designate like parts in the specification and throughout the several views.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings in detail, the invention embodies in its construction an enclosed frame-work forming a segment shaped, boat-like body 10, the arcuate bottom portion 11 of which constitutes a rocker, designated by the same reference character 11.

Provided medially the length of the upper surfaces of the body 10 is an opening 12, the purpose thereof being hereinafter more fully described. The handle designated generally by the reference character 13 consists of a pair of spaced side members 14 connected together at one end by a cross member 15. The remaining end portions of the side members 14 are positioned in the opening 12, and are pivotally connected to the sides of the body 10 by means of suitable bolts or pins 16. It will be noted that the side members 14, configurated substantially as shown, simulate the appearance of an erectible and collapsible sail.

The sides of the body 10 are formed with suitable grooves (not shown) adapted to slidably, that is, removably receive the backrest 17 of the seat assembly 18. The latter is removably receivable in the opening 12 of the body 10 and assumes the form of a pair of spaced side plates 19 connected together by the seat platform 20. It will be noted that the seat assembly 18 is positioned between the side members 14 of the sail 13, and the platform 20 is provided with a substantially circular aperture 21. A removable cover 22 is positioned in the aperture 21, and the cover may be readily replaced by a training chamber 23.

The retractible wheel structure consists of a pair of front levers 24 and a pair of back levers 25, one end of each of the levers 24 being pivotally connected as at 26 to medially the length of one of the levers 25 and to the pivoted end portion of one of the side members 14.

Considering the pivot 26 as a dividing point, the levers 25 may be considered as separated into relatively short arms 27 and relatively long arms 28. A transversely extending hand grip 29 con-

nects the upper extremities of the arms 27, the hand grip 29 being conveniently located with respect to the seat assembly 18.

The free extremities of the arms 28 and the remaining extremities of the levers 24 are provided with rotatable wheels 30, positioned on suitable pins 31. It should be noted that the levers 24, 25 are slidable in suitable slots 32, these being provided in the framework of the body 10 for the purpose of guiding the sliding movement of the levers. The bottom portion of the body 10 is also formed with suitable slots or openings 33 adjacent the location of the wheels 30, the purpose of these slots being hereinafter more fully explained.

A storage compartment 34 is formed in the body 10 behind the seat assembly 18, and a portion of the upper surface of the body is hingedly connected as at 35, to constitute a lid 36 for this compartment. The compartment may, of course, be used for the storage of toys and the like, as well as for the storage of the chamber 23 when the same is not being used.

An upstanding bracket 37, configurated substantially as shown, is secured to the upper surface of the body 10 forwardly of the seat assembly 18. A transversely extending flap 38 is hingedly connected as at 39 to the body 10 adjacent the bracket 37. It will be noted that the ends of the flap 38 are provided with sector-like plates 40, which will be referred to again at a later part of this specification.

A service tray 41 is hingedly connected as at 42 to the flap 38, the tray being of conventional design and adapted for use during meals and also, as a playboard for toys.

The outer edge of the platform or tray 41 is provided with a fastening element 43, this being of a suitable type such as would co-act with the bracket 37 to releaseably lock the tray 41 in the position illustrated in the accompanying Figures 3, 4 and 6.

Having thus described the construction of the invention, its method of operation will now be presented.

Referring first to the accompanying Figures 1, 2 and 5, the invention is shown therein in readiness for use as a go-cart. In this position, the wheels 30 will project from the bottom of the body 10 and the sail or handle 13 will be extended, thus simulating a sailboat in motion. The child, of course, is seated in the seat assembly 18, and the hand grip 29 is in suitable position for use by the child. It should be noted that the tray 41 is conveniently supported on the flat surface 44 of the bracket 37 and the extended side members 14, together with the side plates 19 and the backrest 17, will provide a sufficient enclosure to prevent the child from falling out of the seat.

When it is desired to convert the go-cart into a rocker, the handle or sail 13 is swung or collapsed about its pivots 16 to a position indicated in the accompanying Figures 3, 4 and 6. Simultaneously, the levers 24, 25 and the associated wheels 30, which heretofore have projected from the body 10 through the slots or openings 33, will be withdrawn or retracted into the body, and the latter will rest on the rocker 11.

After the sail 13 has been collapsed, the tray 41, together with the associated flap 38, should be swung about the hinge 39, so that the sector plates 40 contact the upper surface of the body 10. The tray 41 may be locked in this position by means of the fastening element 43 as has been already described, and it will be noted that the relationship of the sector plates 40 with respect to the side members 14 is such, that the sector plates will contact a cam surface 45 provided on each of the side members 14. In other words, by virtue of this contact, the sail 13 cannot be erected into its "go-cart" position, until the tray 41 and the associated flap 38 have been moved to the appropriate, forwardly extended position.

The flap 38, the plates 40, and the side members 14 will thus co-act with the plates 19 and the backrest 17 to form protecting walls for retaining the occupant in the seat assembly 18, during the rocking of the body 10. Since as aforesaid, the sail 13 cannot be erected until the element 43 has been unlatched and the tray 41 moved, the characteristics of safety as exhibited by the lockable protecting walls, become clearly evident.

Referring again to the "go-cart" position of the invention, it should be noted that the configuration of the slots 32 is such, that the same function as effective stops, to prevent excessive spreading of the levers 24, 25, as is best illustrated in the accompanying Figure 5.

It is believed that the advantages and use of the invention will be clearly understood from the foregoing disclosure and accordingly, further description thereof at this point is considered unnecessary.

While in the foregoing there has been shown and described the preferred embodiment of this invention it is to be understood that minor changes in the details of construction, combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. Child's furniture comprising in combination, an enclosed framework forming a segment shaped boat-like body, the arcuate bottom portion of said framework constituting a rocker, a pair of side members and a cross member at one end thereof forming a handle, said side members simulating the appearance of a sail, said body having an opening formed medially the length of its upper surface, the remaining end portions of said members being positioned in said opening and pivotally connected to the sides of said framework, a seat including a backrest removably positioned in said opening and between said side members, said seat being formed with an aperture, a removable cover in said aperture, said cover being replaceable by a training chamber, a pair of front levers, a pair of back levers, one end of each of said front levers being pivotally connected to medially the length of one of said back levers and to the pivoted end portion of one of said side members, said back levers forming upwardly extending short arms and downwardly extending long arms, rotatable wheels at the free ends of said long arms and at the remaining ends of said front levers, said levers being slidable in said framework, the erecting and collapsing of said sail sliding said levers whereby said wheels are projected from or retracted into the bottom of said body, an upstanding bracket on said body forwardly of said seat, a flap hingedly connected to said body adjacent said bracket, a service tray hingedly connected to said flap, and a fastening element on said tray, said element co-acting with said bracket to releasably retain said tray in the locked position, said tray in the locked position co-acting with said flap and with said side members to form protecting walls for retaining the

occupant in said seat during the rocking of said body, said side members having cam surfaces on the ends thereof adjacent said tray when in said collapsed position, and said flaps having means to engage said cam surfaces to lock the side members in collapsed position.

2. The device as defined in claim 1, in which said means comprise laterally disposed sector plates and said tray, sector plates and flap are shiftable into one position to facilitate the erection of said side members and shiftable into a second position so that said sector plates engage said cam surfaces to lock the sails in collapsed position.

JOSEPH A. NOTTO.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
145,829	Ardrey	Dec. 23, 1873
1,241,357	Drosdowet	Sept. 25, 1917
1,413,510	Wiggin	Apr. 18, 1922
1,421,260	Kurnick	June 27, 1922

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
558,091	France	Aug. 21, 1923